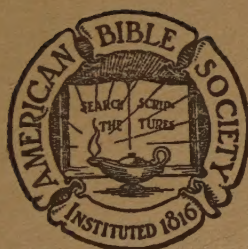


AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH
ANNUAL REPORT

1929



AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

Instituted 1816

NEW YORK

1929

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• •

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Those who depend for life's comforts and necessities upon the interest of invested capital are never quite free from anxiety. A mortgage or a bond can mature, when the money received by the owner must be quickly reinvested; dividends on stock unexpectedly shrink and the diminished resources do not suffice; a safe may not endure the heat of a burning building and the valuable securities within may be reduced to worthless ashes. Many such possibilities worry those who live upon the income from investments.

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AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

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KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

1929



TOGETHER WITH
A LIST OF AUXILIARY AND COOPERATING SOCIETIES
THEIR OFFICERS, AND AN APPENDIX

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

INSTITUTED 1816

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1920

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1921

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1923

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1924

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1925

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1926

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1927

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REV. ADOLF KELLER, D.D., Zurich, Switzerland

1928

REV. THOMAS CHALMERS VINSON, Paint Lick, Ky.
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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

THE one hundred and thirteenth Annual Meeting of the American Bible Society was convened at the Bible House, Astor Place, New York City, on Thursday, May 9, 1929, at 3 o'clock p. m.

President E. Francis Hyde was in the chair, and among those present were George Woolsey, M.D., Wm. P. Stevenson, James Marshall Stuart, Herbert S. Baker, Howard Whitemore, Ray Clark Tillinghast, George Tiffany, James T. Van Steenberg, Rev. Dr. Frank Mason North, Rev. Dr. J. P. Wragg, Rev. Dr. Frank P. Parkin, Rev. Dr. James H. Hyatt, Rev. M. B. Porter, Rev. Dr. Frank Marston, Rev. Dr. Arthur F. Ragatz; General Secretaries North and Brown, Treasurer Darlington, and Recording Secretary Chamberlain.

Excuses for absence were received from George D. Beattys, John T. Manson, Ivy L. Lee, Joseph S. Auerbach, Col. Henry W. Sackett, Miss Elisabeth Brown Cutting, Mrs. John Ferguson, William J. Stitt, James H. Post, Rev. Drs. R. S. Inglis, Howard C. Robbins, and M. G. G. Scherer; and Bishop James H. Darlington.

Prayer was offered by Dr. Marston.

The one hundred and thirteenth Annual Report of the Board of Managers for the year ending December 31, 1928, was presented briefly by the Secretaries, each presenting the work under his charge.

On motion of Dr. Marston, it was

Resolved, That the report which has just been read be printed and circulated under the direction of the Board of Managers.

The Recording Secretary reported the members of the Board of Managers who have completed the term for which they were elected.

In view of the vacancies reported in the Board of Managers, a committee, consisting of George Woolsey, M.D., Rev. M. B. Porter, and General Secretary Brown, was appointed by the President to nominate suitable persons to fill the vacancies.

The annual statement of the Treasurer was presented by Treasurer Darlington.

On motion of Mr. James M. Stuart, it was

Resolved, That the financial report just read be accepted and printed in the Annual Report.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Frank P. Parkin, it was

Resolved, That when the Society adjourns, it do so to meet on the second Thursday in May, 1930.

On behalf of the committee appointed to nominate individuals to fill the places of the Managers whose terms of office had expired, Dr. George Woolsey placed in nomination Winthrop M. Tuttle, Orrin R.

Judd, Ellwood M. Rabenold, Henry W. Sackett, Herbert S. Baker, Wm. J. Stitt, and Edward S. Malmar.

On motion of Mr. Ray Clark Tillinghast, it was

Resolved, To accept the report of the Committee on Nominations, and to proceed to an election, by ballot, of members of the Board of Managers.

The President declared, as a result of the ballot, that the above nominees had been elected as Members of the Board for the term 1929-1933.

On motion of Dr. James H. Hyatt, it was

Resolved, That the filling of any other vacancies in the Board of Managers be referred to the Board with power.

On motion of Mr. Wm. P. Stevenson, it was

Resolved, That the Board of Managers as now constituted be directed to meet at the Bible House on the first Thursday in June for the purpose of organizing for the coming year, and for the transaction of such other business as may be presented.

Recording Secretary Chamberlain introduced the following representatives of Auxiliary Bible Societies who were present: Rev. Frank P. Parkin, D.D., of the Pennsylvania Bible Society; Rev. M. B. Porter, of the Virginia Bible Society; Rev. James H. Hyatt, D.D., of the Maryland Bible Society; and Rev. Frank Marston, D.D., of the Young Men's Bible Society of Cincinnati.

At 3:30 o'clock, the meeting was adjourned, that those present might attend the memorial service for the late General Secretary William Ingraham Haven.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY REPORT, 1929

ALL Societies and Institutions receiving this Annual Report are respectfully requested to acknowledge the same by forwarding to the Secretaries of the American Bible Society, Bible House, Astor Place, New York, a copy of their reports or similar publications.

Three matters allied to the report for 1928, but occurring in the earlier months of 1929, are here mentioned briefly for permanent record.



At a gathering in memory of General Secretary William I. Haven, on May 9, 1929, in the Bible House, an oil portrait of him, painted by the artist Jassa Salganik, was presented to the Board, with an address, by Mr. Frank H. Mann, on behalf of friends of Dr. Haven and the Society. The portrait was accepted with appropriate remarks by President E. Francis Hyde. A message on behalf of the British and Foreign Bible Society was delivered by the Rev. J. V. Armour, M.A., secretary of the Canadian Bible Society. Memorial addresses were delivered by the Rev. Ezra S. Tipple, D.D., LL.D., president of Drew University, and Robert E. Speer, D.D., LL.D., secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., and long associated with Dr. Haven in various interdenominational activities. The portrait now hangs in the room of the Board of Managers.



The following message on the Bible by the President of the United States was presented on May 5, 1929, to the Convention of the National Federation of Men's Bible Classes, held in Baltimore, Maryland. It is worthy of entry in the permanent records of the Society.

There is no other book so various as the Bible, nor one so full of concentrated wisdom. Whether it be of law, business, morals or that vision which leads the imagination in the creation of constructive enterprises for the happiness of mankind, he who seeks for guidance in any of these things may look inside its covers and find illumination. The study of this book in your Bible Classes is a postgraduate course in the richest library of human experience.

As a nation we are indebted to the Book of Books for our national ideals and representative institutions. Their preservation rests in adhering to its principles.

HERBERT HOOVER.



The year 1928 was a banner year in the issues of volumes of the

Scripture in the history of the world and of the Word. Not only did the American Bible Society issue the largest number in its history, as recorded in subsequent pages, but the British and Foreign Bible Society and the National Bible Society of Scotland, the other two large Bible Societies in the world, reported the same fact in their experience. The figures are worthy of entry in the permanent records of the Society.

	Bibles	Test's	Portions	Total
American Bible Society	305,019	618,610	10,108,865	11,032,494
British and Foreign B. S.	1,021,260	1,221,257	9,157,023	11,399,540
National B. S. of Scotland.	72,958	213,248	3,848,234	4,134,440
Total.....	1,399,237	2,053,115	23,114,122	26,566,474

To the immense total of over twenty-six and a half million volumes issued by these three Societies, another 10,000,000 volumes may be estimated as having been issued by other Bible societies, missionary societies, and commercial publishers. One other society reported an issue of over two and a half million volumes in 1928, and one commercial publisher advertised an issue of over a million volumes in the previous year. This gives a grand total for the issues during 1928 of 36,500,000 volumes of Scripture. This means an average issue of 100,000 volumes every day of the year, roughly, 4,000 volumes every hour, or over *one every second of time*, day and night. Do not such figures and facts offset some of the gloomy facts and figures of current life? The sowing of the seed, which is the Word of God, is going forward, and some of the seed falls into good ground and brings forth fruit, "some thirty, some sixty, and some a hundredfold."

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS



IN his Epistle to the Philippians St. Paul again and again urges his readers "to rejoice." Sustained himself by a great inner satisfaction of soul and mind, he covets for the Philippians a sense of God's grace that will enable them to "rejoice in the Lord." He calls upon them to rejoice with him, citing among other evidences of divine favor the fact that "the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the progress of the gospel."

Thus would the Board of Managers and the officers of the American Bible Society call upon lovers of the Bible to rejoice with them in the evident tokens of the Heavenly Father's benediction upon the Society's efforts throughout another year "to encourage a wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures."

The year 1928 was a year of sufficient advance and achievement to warrant a frequent sounding of the note of rejoicing. For the fourth year in succession the total issues of the Scriptures exceeded that of the preceding year. If to pass the ten-million mark in 1927 was an accomplishment, to have passed the eleven-million mark in 1928 is an achievement.

A factor which tended to modify the spirit of rejoicing with which the year was concluded, was the need of reducing the hoped-for program of 1929 by a considerable fraction. After the officers had conservatively estimated the expenditures which in their judgment should be made during 1929, it was realized that the probable financial receipts for the ensuing year would be at least eighty thousand dollars less than the

anticipated plans required. Any unavoidable reduction in program made necessary by inadequate funds inevitably makes a subtraction from the spirit of rejoicing.

A great sorrow has rested upon the official personnel of the Society through the removal of General Secretary Haven, whose death occurred on June 5, 1928, after twenty-nine years of uninterrupted service. The new General Secretaries, the Reverend Eric M. North, Ph.D., and the Reverend George William Brown, who assumed their present positions on May 1, had eagerly expected to rely for many years upon Dr. Haven's counsel and experience. The fact that the year of his death could witness unusual attainments in the realization of the Society's aims, is indicative of the faithfulness of the organization which drew much of its effectiveness from his abilities.

ISSUES

With 11,032,494 volumes issued in 1928, the Society rejoices in having reached the highest total in its history. The great bulk of the volumes were portions, and the great bulk of portions were Gospels. No part of the Bible is more important, and no books of the Bible are more carefully read. Therefore the tremendous number of portions issued is a cause for rejoicing. On the other hand, it is regretted that the number of complete Bibles and complete Testaments issued last year was less than the year before. There were 305,019 Bibles, 618,610 Testaments, and 10,108,865 portions, issued—the total being 997,697 in excess of the previous year. Again the year is marked by the largest total of issues in one year from either the Home or Foreign Agencies. The record for the highest total has swung back to the Foreign Agencies, which issued 6,427,579 volumes. The China Agency issued the astounding total of 4,794,730 volumes; and the Japan Agency, for the first time, passed the one-million mark by issuing 1,056,116 volumes.

These Scriptures were issued in 182 languages during 1928, at home and abroad.

ISSUES OF 113 YEARS

THE TOTAL ISSUES OF THE SOCIETY IN THE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEEN (113) YEARS OF ITS SERVICE HAVE BEEN TWO HUNDRED AND FIVE MILLION, NINETY-SIX THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-ONE (205,096,251) VOLUMES.

DISTRIBUTION

IN THE UNITED STATES

The distribution of the Scriptures throughout the United States in 1928 was marked, as always, by the continuance of a wide variety of problems, of multiplied evidences that, though a multitude of homes possess the Scriptures, there are like multitudes to whom the Book is in effect unknown, and by the unfailing witness of the power of the great Book in the lives of individuals and communities. Once again the circulation from the ten Home Agencies of the Society shows a maximum figure. Although the increase over the preceding year is not as great as before, the fresh attractiveness of the Society's new New Testament portions has, it is believed, by no means reached its full drawing power. An examination of the circulation for the individual Agencies shows that seven of the ten have had the largest circulation in their history; and that one, which covers great states and populations in the Central Northwest, has exceeded the million mark.

One reckons these figures as great circulations as one looks backward only seven years to a time when circulation in the United States was one-third of what it is now. But, when one realizes the steady increase in the numbers of the reading public produced by the natural increase in population and by the great public school systems of the country, and when one reckons upon the extensive foreign-language communities in our cities, the shifting of our industrial population from place to place, and the numberless mountainsides and valleys that are off the beaten track,—one realizes that such circulations as these should be regarded rather more as steps toward a goal, than as a goal achieved.

A distinctive feature of the year has been the effort to follow up the results of the Mississippi Valley disaster of 1927 by reaching with Scriptures the reestablished homes. This has not been an easy task because of the distribution problems involved; but, with the cooperation of local pastors and church officials and the activity of the Society's colporteurs, several thousand Bibles, Testaments, and portions have been placed in these newly made homes. The secretary of the board of home missions of one of the large denominations, after a visitation of the territory, has stated again and again publicly "that the churches are all greatly indebted to the American Bible Society for this big piece of work."

A new measure, this year, to meet the needs of Navy chaplains for Scriptures for sailors has been the provision of standing orders to the Society's Agencies in a dozen ports on both sides of the Atlantic and Pacific to supply chaplains with a suitable quantity on call. The largest center for naval training happens to be on the Great Lakes, and to the chaplains in this center several hundreds of Testaments and portions have been granted for the use of the young lads learning their new occupation. Likewise, service has been rendered at the marine camp at Quantico, Virginia, at the naval hospital in Norfolk, Virginia, and at the embarkation camp in Parris Island, South Carolina, and other points. Moreover, sailors on marine ships have not been neglected, as appears from reports not only from the major ports of the country, but also from Norfolk, Va., Wilmington, N. C., Charleston, S. C., Jacksonville, Tampa, and Key West, Fla., and Mobile, Ala.

In the Gospel Reading Campaign in January and February of this year the Gospels of Matthew and John were widely read. This periodic reading before the pre-Easter period seems likely to become a regular feature in the life of several denominations.

Other uses of the Gospels for widespread distribution bring many testimonies. Here are four: "I thought I was a pretty decent sort of chap and was satisfied with myself, until I read that Gospel you sold me." "That

little Gospel is the only part of the Bible I've ever read. If the rest is anything like that, I want the whole book." "I've read this little book (St. John) every day for the last two months, and the more I read it the more anxious I am to read it again. I learn something new every time I look at it." "I have spent thousands of dollars for things that brought me less pleasure than I've gotten out of this Gospel. Why, it has made a new man out of me, and I wouldn't exchange what I've gotten out of it for any price."

Again, a lady's purse had disappeared from her motor car. Some time later it was returned to the police station, and the lady was sent for. The man who brought it in announced that he had stolen it,—which seemed a surprising statement in view of the fact that the money and jewelry were intact, and that there had been no clues to the thief. The lady's check-up of the contents of the bag showed that one article was missing,—a penny Gospel of St. Luke,—the cause both of the thief's repentance and his confession!

By cooperation with the Bureau of Reference for Foreign Migrants, the Society has made available to local pastors, copies of bilingual Scriptures containing English and a foreign language in parallel columns, in order that the pastor may use them in calling upon immigrants newly settled in his community. The bureau secures the names and locations of such immigrants and forwards them to the nearest pastor with the Society's notification of the Scriptures available for this service.

A bit of the foreign language problem of the Society appears in the fact that in an Agency on the Atlantic coast Scriptures were distributed in fifty languages, and one in the central part of the United States reports Scriptures distributed in forty-four languages, and on the Pacific coast Scriptures in seventy-seven languages. And from opposite shores of the country come these two illustrations of the work. A correspondent, after visiting a California jail, wrote: "A few days ago a Chinese boy in the Sacramento jail came forward with a Chinese Gospel and said, 'When I am released,

I am going to Lockport and tell all the Chinese what this book says about Jesus, and what he has done for us.' His face was shining with joy." Again, the chaplain of the Virginia penitentiary writes of a little brown man from the Philippine Islands, in the sick ward: "He speaks English very poorly, and none of us can speak his native tongue. Over and over again, we have wished to help him, but what could we do? At last we thought of that great friend of the world missions for the Master—the American Bible Society. We found that the man could read in a language, whose very name was new to us,—the Ilocano language,—and a New Testament in this language was secured from the Society's Agency. Think of it! Some one had been sent out by the Christian church, and he had labored and learned until he could translate the Word into the language of the strange man. The American Bible Society as one of its numerous jobs of like sorts took up the matter, had the book printed and bound, and was ready at the call of need from one lonely man to give 'The Word of Life.' I stood by his bed today, gave into his hands the precious Book and asked him to read first of all, John 3:16. It was a fine experience to see the smile upon his face. And when I left the prison, after half an hour's visit, he still had his lean hands outside the bed covers holding the Book, and was straining his weak neck to see and to read."

Throughout the reports of the Agencies, illustrations are multiplied of the variety of institutions and people who are served by the Society. A large prosperous suburban church buys attractive Bibles for its pews. The prison congregation in a state penitentiary where a notable revival has been carried on, asks for, and of course receives, a pulpit Bible for its services. A young woman borrows a Bible for a day from an exhibit; conversation on her return reveals that she had felt the need of the aid of the Book in overcoming temptation, and as she left she said, "I've won." A colporteur writes of having spent half his life in the distribution of the Scriptures among foreign-speaking people, and writes,

"And the best of it is that it has been well spent." A group of Indian children in a government school, watched over and trained by the voluntary work of a Christian missionary, are given each a copy of the Bible as a personal possession for achievement in their studies and as an aid in further mastery in the way of life.

Quite apart from such grants as may be made to individuals who are in need,—and a multitude of such grants are made through the Agencies' offices, colporteurs and correspondents,—many grants are made to and through institutions that have their effect both upon individuals and upon the atmosphere of the institution itself. The list which follows of institutions and groups to which grants were made by the Central Agency during 1928, may be taken as typical:

City Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Gospel City Mission, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 London Prison Farm, London, Ohio.
 Salvation Army, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Italian Presbyterian Church, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 School for Crippled Children, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Federated Woman's Missionary Society, Sidney, Ohio.
 National Military Home, Chardon, Ohio.
 Newport City Jail, Newport, Ky.
 Baptist Hospital, Ashland, Ky.
 State Penitentiary, Frankfort, Ky.
 State Penitentiary, Eddyville, Ky.
 Orphans' Home, Louisville, Ky.
 County House, Boyle County, Ky.
 Methodist Hospital, Pikeville, Ky.
 Bethany Orphanage, Bethany, Ky.
 Flood Sufferers, Whitesburg, Ky.
 Presbyterian Mission, Wooten, Ky.
 Caney Creek Community Center, Pippa-pass, Ky.

Carr Creek Community Center, Carr Creek, Ky.
 Memphis Goodwill Industries.
 Knox County Industrial School.
 Beverly Hills Sanatorium, Knoxville, Tenn.
 Beulah House, Memphis, Tenn.
 Bachman Home and School, Athens, Tenn.
 Florence Crittenden Home, Nashville, Tenn.
 Presbyterian Sunday-school Missions, Morgan County, Tenn.
 Hospital for Crippled Adults, Memphis, Tenn.
 Flood Sufferers, Baxter, Tenn.
 Sunday-school Board of M. E. Church So., for the Cajuns, Ala.
 Seaman's Church Institute, Mobile, Ala.
 Mississippi Flood Sufferers.
 State Penitentiary, Parchman, Miss.
 Sanatorium, Sanatorium, Miss.
 Woman's Auxiliary, for Bibleless Homes, Gulfport, Miss.

This is all in addition to large numbers of Gospels donated for local "wayside pulpits," where local workers keep a little box filled with Gospels in some railroad station, public waiting room or popular shop.

A warm testimony of praise should be given to the many correspondents and voluntary workers who aid the Society by part time or occasional service in reaching the many who would not otherwise be reached. Of such a one among the colored people, the Agency Secretary writes, "We have made her donations, but often she will say, 'Please do not make this one. I had three or four good days' work this week, and I must give God

his part, and this will leave you that number to send to some others who are just as needy.' Out of these daily earnings for housework she has sent many books." Again, a worker in North Carolina has established Golden Rule libraries in many of the public schools in the state, to each of which the Society has donated a Bible; and in addition she has distributed some 6,000 Testaments and some 10,000 portions. There are two or three score such helpers across the United States who use their hard-worked motor cars to carry them to the out-of-the-way valleys and extended territories of the countryside.

While the reports of the Agencies were being reviewed, an inquiry was recently received from a prospective donor, asking whether the work of the colporteur, "now that nearly everyone has a Bible, is not likely to be discontinued." To be sure, in many a well-to-do suburban community one might easily suppose that the colporteur was out of date. But the reports furnished the answer to the inquiry; for, while it is true that increased costs of living expenses and of traveling have reduced the number of colporteurs the Society can employ, the reduction is not because there is not an almost unlimited amount of work for them to do,—a work which seems likely to be needed for several generations. Across the United States there are very many communities where there are no churches; and others where the population is so widely scattered as to make the maintenance of an established church difficult. There are great populations in industrial or foreign-speaking sections of great cities where family after family has never had opportunity truly to make the Book a part of the home; there are great numbers of migrant workers that move from one seasonal occupation to another and are only inadequately reached by the home missionary forces of the churches. A single extract from one report tells the story: "A colporteur working in Idaho was told by a man at whose home he was calling, 'We haven't been in a church for fifteen years and have never owned a Bible.' After telling them about the

Word and reading selected passages, the mother timidly inquired the price of a Bible. On being told how little they cost, she asked her husband to purchase one. He, having been deeply moved by the reading, suggested that they buy not one, but seven, so that each member of the family could have his own book. In the same community the colporteur found thirteen families that had never owned even a Testament. In some of them were grown children who had never seen a Bible, had never been inside a church, and had never heard the gospel message. Most of us find it difficult to imagine conditions such as exist in many of these frontier communities. For instance, this same colporteur met a woman who on Sunday afternoons had for fifteen years taught a class of girls and yet had never owned a Bible.

From another locality comes a typical testimony as to what the colporteur can accomplish. After calling for a week in a western village, a colporteur was invited to preach in a Mormon meeting house. As he entered, a man arose and, addressing those present, said, "Friends, this is the man who came to the jail and preached to us. I was there for bootlegging. I was a hard citizen. I hated everybody and felt that everybody hated me. But this man told us that Jesus loved even the sinner; he gave me this Testament, and I read it. I believed what it said, and I am a saved man!" Tears streamed down his face as he pleaded with his neighbors to "give God's Word a chance" in their lives by hearing it preached and by reading it. At the close of the service, the wife and son of this ex-bootlegger surrendered to Christ, and sixty other people present asked for Testaments, saying they had none, but wanted to read for themselves the blessed Word.

Thus, the old methods of distributing continue fruitful and effective, while new methods develop, such as the "wayside pulpit" used in the Central Agency, the silent salesman boxes in Chicago, distribution through radio promotion in the Southwestern Agency, and the daily Scripture reading over the radio at many other points. By all these and by multiplied personalities, the

Society has carried forward, during 1928, its share of the magnificent enterprise of laying the foundations of the kingdom of God in the United States. May courage and wisdom be given to it and all who work with it to render even greater service in the year to come!

THE BLIND

In its ninety-third consecutive year of service to the blind, the Society supplied 2,266 embossed volumes from the Bible House, New York. Since each of these large volumes contains only a portion of the Bible, this number was equivalent to only 123 complete Bibles. Toward the \$7,000 which they cost, the blind and their friends paid \$1,459,—a sum sufficient to purchase 2,353 complete ink print Bibles. Of the embossed volumes, 1,272 were in Revised Braille Grade 1½, 379 in New York Point, 355 in Moon, 122 in American Braille, 75 in English Braille, 50 in Line Letter, 12 in Spanish Braille, and 1 in Arabic Moon. These were supplied to over 600 individuals and to several libraries and schools serving many more blind.

The total of embossed volumes of Scripture distributed in the United States for the Blind by the Society since it began this service in 1835 is now 74,889.

During the year, the Society published in interpoint form, for the first time, the Old Testament, following the American Standard Revised Version, in 15 volumes in Revised Braille Grade 1½.

Another additional service to the Blind was authorized in early December. For several years, the Society has set a uniform price of \$1 for each embossed volume, though they cost from \$3 to \$8 apiece. This special price has now been further reduced to 50 cents a volume, making these expensive volumes still more accessible to the blind.

Knowledge that the Scriptures are available in several systems, and that all volumes may be had at this much reduced price, is spreading among the blind and their friends. Nevertheless, correspondence continues to show that there are many blind who have not yet learned of the availability of embossed Scriptures. The

Society will be glad to have ministers and Christian workers spread the information among any blind they may know.

Abroad, a service was rendered in the distribution of 524 volumes in Japanese Braille, 161 in Arabic Braille, 41 in Canton Colloquial Braille, 23 in Portuguese Braille, 8 in Spanish Braille, and an unspecified number in Armenian Braille and Siamese Braille.

According to present records, the total of embossed volumes supplied by this Society in foreign lands, including those just reported, is 9,755. This number added to the 74,889 volumes distributed at home make a grand total of 84,644 embossed volumes supplied by the Society in its world service to the blind.

THE SOCIETY ABROAD

The year 1928 in the work of the Society abroad has been distinctive in a number of respects. In several Agencies and areas new high levels for circulation have been attained. In some the record is striking. The total combined circulation abroad is also higher than before. In some areas long-maintained barriers of indifference and hostility appear to be yielding to a rising desire to have and to know the Great Book.

LATIN AMERICA

Latin America is one of these areas of distinction. Here the circulation for 1928 was over 675,000 and is the largest in the history of the Society. In ten years the distribution of whole Bibles and of Testaments has more than doubled, and of portions more than quadrupled. The West Indies and the La Plata Agencies report the largest circulation in their history; and the Caribbean, Upper Andes, and Brazil Agencies, a larger circulation than any year except 1927. Mexico has shown the largest circulation in several years. It seems imperative that the Society should have additional resources to put into the work in Latin America, inasmuch as in the four most populous Agencies it has been unable to supply the Scriptures to meet the actual de-

mand, and more than once the colporteurs' packs and the Agencies' storerooms have been empty of the very books which thousands were ready to buy.

A forecast of what may develop throughout Latin America appears in the statement of Dr. Marcial-Dorado, Secretary of the West Indies Agency, that whereas a few years ago the demand for Scriptures was chiefly from those who had already been brought into the churches, now the greater part of the demand seems to come from those who are not yet within the churches; and colporteurs, correspondents, subagents and voluntary workers alike comment upon the changed attitude. A hearing is readily obtained; those with Bibles to dispose of are eagerly welcomed and often sought out. Not a little of this is due to the widespread effort of Dr. Marcial-Dorado to stir the interest of people of all classes by lectures and addresses, articles in the press, and the distribution of pamphlet literature in many ways. A striking fact is the very large proportion of young people who are purchasing the Scriptures. Large interest is also shown among school-teachers and professional classes. The need for many languages in the territory of this Agency still continues, nineteen different languages having been called for last year.

In Mexico, the excellent circulation of the year bears testimony both to the demand and to the capacity of a new Agency Secretary, Sr. H. T. Marroquin, who was appointed February, 1928, after several years of service in the Agency. Sr. Marroquin represented the Mexican National Churches, in March and April, at the important Jerusalem Conference of the International Missionary Council. Among the distinctive events of the year was the celebration of the jubilee of the Agency, which was first established in 1878, the sixth of the Society's Agencies to pass the "fiftieth year" mark. The jubilee was celebrated with lectures and addresses in the evangelical churches of Mexico City, and in a practical way by the work of the colporteurs' institute which assembled for study during the mornings of the celebration, and in the afternoons distributed Scrip-

tures throughout Mexico City. A warm expression of appreciation and regard was received from the National Council of Evangelical Churches.

The report of the Caribbean Agency comes partly from the Agency Secretary, the Rev. R. R. Gregory, and partly from the Rev. H. C. McKinney, who is serving as Acting Secretary during the furlough of Mr. Gregory. In these varied republics systematic work is steadily being pressed, in spite of persistent difficulties in transportation and communication and of opposition in many small rural communities, and, sad to relate, official opposition in parts of Colombia. Encouraging experiences in distribution among the Indians are reported, and it is anticipated that the production in the new year of some new editions in the Indian languages will have still more encouraging results. The Bible House in Cristobal continues its helpful service to missionary travelers who must stop over between steamers at that point. Ninety-two missionaries, twenty-five children of missionaries, and eighteen other friends made use of the facilities of what is in a sense both a lighthouse and a hospice.

Dr. Robert H. Milligan, reporting for the Upper Andes Agency, indicates a somewhat similar situation in respect to opposition as that which obtains in the Caribbean Agency. He, himself, has had the experience with others of being stoned while in a prayer meeting in Huanuco, Peru. Though the circulation in portions is not quite as large as last year, the circulation of Bibles and Testaments is distinctly larger. In addition to missionary cooperation, the work of a new colporteur, Sr. Sabha, of Arabic ancestry, is proving a source of great encouragement in Bolivia. His experiences in dealing with hostility and indifference and turning them to sympathy and cooperation cannot but remind us of the remarkable power that is possessed by those who, stirred by the power of the gospel in their own lives, with quiet courage and ready wit bring to men both the witness of the Christian life and the message of the printed Book.

In the great territory of the La Plata Agency, comprising Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, and Paraguay, the circulation of 1928 was more than half as much again as that of the circulation of last year, and even then the supply of Scriptures was inadequate. A distinctive feature has been the issue of many tens of thousands of Gospels bearing the national flag. A surprising action of the Roman Catholic Church in Buenos Aires was the publication and sale, through young ladies on the streets of Buenos Aires, of 100,000 copies of the Four Gospels in Spanish with notes and prayers. This accords with similar events in Rio and is said to be inspired by the group known as "The Society of Cardinal Ferrari." The significance of this entirely new measure will not be lost upon those who have been concerned for the distribution of the Scriptures in Latin countries; but it remains to be seen how thoroughly this will be continued. It is interesting to note that in one week during the Roman Catholic campaign the colporteurs of the American Bible Society sold 40,000 Gospels in Buenos Aires. The "Bible coach" automobile has been actively used in Uruguay with excellent effect, and one is urgently desired for Argentina. The distribution in Paraguay has been greatly helped by a liberal donation from an American traveling there. The difficulties of distribution because of lack of roads and the necessity of extended horseback travel limit our efforts here. Mr. Penzotti, the Secretary, has been very active in the visitation of the churches and in the supervision of the work, and evidence of local regard for the work appears in the contribution of \$6,774 from churches and individuals within the area of the Agency. His report shows abundant evidence of a great opportunity, which we are meeting only inadequately.

In the great Republic of Brazil the circulation would have exceeded that of last year, had it not been for a very unexpected shortage of Scriptures at the end of the year. The Agency Secretary, Dr. H. C. Tucker, who, with Dr. Erasmo Braga, represented the Brazilian churches in the Jerusalem Conference of the Inter-

national Missionary Council, is looking forward to the largest circulation in the history of the Agency in 1929. The calls for Scriptures from the Christian churches are constantly increasing, and there are all too few books and money for the furtherance of the work carried on by the colporteurs among the great unreached masses of the population. A significant development is the effort to meet the religious needs of the tens of thousands of Japanese who have come to Brazil to settle, and whose numbers are expected greatly to increase by further immigration in the course of the next few years. Cooperation between the Japan and Brazil Agencies in reaching these immigrants with the Scriptures, perhaps in a diglot form, both before they leave Japan and after they reach Brazil, is expected to be a feature of the work in a few months. The high rental costs and needs for larger quarters, as well as a conviction of the resulting stimulus to the work, have led Secretary Tucker to recommend the erection of a Bible House. The Board of Managers is heartily in sympathy with this proposal if the funds could be found for this purpose. Such a structure would be more than a shelter for the work of the Agency; it would be a continual physical witness to the significance of the Great Book in a land where such a witness would be of great influence.

THE NEAR EAST

The return of Agency Secretary J. Oscar Boyd to the Levant Agency was immediately followed by the transfer of the Agency headquarters to Vienna, in order that more extended and more satisfactory printing for this important field could be carried on. The difficulties in Constantinople and the pressure of other printing in Beirut made this step very desirable, and the results promise well for the work. The change does not alter the Society's territory, and the work of local distribution in Austria continues under the British and Foreign Bible Society. Through the courtesy of the government twenty-nine series of plates were brought in from Constantinople and Beirut without duty, and much

other help has been given in the making of adjustments to the particular nature of the Society's work.

In Turkey, the changes which the Society confronts may fairly be termed "revolutionary." The decision of the government to require the people to adopt the Latin alphabet instead of the Arabic characters for writing the Turkish language not only requires the publication of new editions of the Scriptures in which this change is made, but in the course of a short time will, in effect, add hundreds of thousands of people to the Agency's constituency, as those who have been illiterate in the Arabic characters become, by the insistence of the government, literate in the vastly easier Latin characters. Whatever may be the intention of the government, one result will undoubtedly be that of making the Scriptures available and readable to the great mass of the population of Turkey. To meet the immediate needs of the situation and pave the way for a further distribution, the Agency issued the Book of Proverbs in Turkish with the Arabic characters on one page and the new Latin characters on the opposite page.

The circulation continues to be the most difficult problem in Turkey, but little by little the people are being reached, and newspaper advertising is playing a part in the development of sales by mail.

In Bulgaria, in spite of an earthquake and a drought which have brought an economic disaster to the country hardly realized outside, the circulation has doubled in the year. Colporteurs and correspondents have been earnest and eager. The Holy Synod of the Bulgarian National Church has cooperated by reducing the cost to us of their new edition. It is interesting to note that the year 1928 was the centennial of the first translation of the Four Gospels into modern Bulgarian.

In Macedonia and Thrace, the current dengue fever crippled our colportage for part of the year; but the sales have held up and great encouragement is felt, as two fine young men have given up a more lucrative business in order to undertake this important work. It

is such a Christian spirit that is truly productive, whatever the form of Christian work may be.

The striking achievement of the year in the Arabic-Levant Agency has been the remarkable distribution accomplished by Secretary W. S. Strong as he has applied, with Cairo as a center, the policy of work which he developed so effectively in North China; namely, that of stirring the local Christian churches to their opportunities and responsibilities. The circulation rose from 183,427 in 1927 to 337,067 in 1928. The more liberal spirit that has been coming to the fore in the world of Islam, especially in Turkey and Egypt, bids fair to open to the Bible Society an opportunity, which can only be met by an increase in income. With the eagerness of the churches to undertake distribution, and the readiness of the population to receive the Book, the critical question becomes that of the supply of Scriptures; and although recent arrangements with the Beirut Press have greatly increased the quantities, there have been periods when there was not a single copy of Gospel portions available in the Cairo headquarters. Surely some of those who read of this and of the remarkable opportunities for effective Scripture distribution will take measures to give the Society the resources that it needs.

THE FAR EAST

The coming of more settled conditions, so far as military and political events are concerned, and the consequent improvement in the means of communication have brought the circulation of the China Agency not only back to the high record of 1926, but more than 850,000 beyond it, to the figure of 4,674,123. This has been due to the widespread desire of the Christian forces of China to distribute the Gospels chiefly by sale among all those whom they could reach. Such a movement could not exist if it were not for a great receptivity on the part of the people. The year has also been marked by other significant events in the life of the Agency. Two new Field Secretaries have been ap-

pointed—Mr. Frank K. Jowe, in North China, and Mr. C. A. Rao, in Central China. The work of these two Chinese young men will go far to link the Society to the churches and to facilitate and further the cooperation that is so large a factor in the Society's distribution. A striking evidence of the manifold relations of the Society appears in the fact that, in 1928, its aid in China was extended to sixty-nine different denominations and independent missions.

An event of importance was the dedication, on October 11, 1928, of the completed Bible House in Peiping (formerly Peking). This excellent structure with its fine Chinese architecture is the gift of the Maryland Bible Society and is a splendid evidence of that society's world-wide outlook and hearty cooperation with us. The Board of Managers of the American Bible Society was represented at the dedication by Mr. R. C. Tillinghast. In South China, the local Chinese Bible Society which has been developed in cooperation with the work of the older Societies has given evidence both of zeal in meeting the urgent needs that are all about it, and also of concern for the work throughout the world. One may indeed rejoice at the great circulation of this Agency; but one must also recollect that, among so vast a population as China's, there are great sections of it practically untouched, and every year the natural increase of population is adding new multitudes who must in time be led to receive the Book for their own.

Although the enthronement of the new Emperor in Japan was the occasion of much rejoicing, the unsatisfactory economic conditions made the year's work in the distribution of the Scriptures seem uncertain. However, the circulation attained in Japan itself has turned out to be 881,343, nearly as much as the maximum reached in 1926. A large part of the effort of the Agency under the direction of Secretary Karl E. Aurell has been devoted to reaching rural homes. The colporteurs on their bicycles report more than 250,000 homes touched. Every day has brought its evidence, both in correspondence and in the experiences of the colporteurs, of the marvelous way in which the Gospels

and the Testaments have touched individual lives. Secretary Aurell's report is filled with such incidents. The colporteurs and correspondents have also penetrated many kinds of institutions with the books. In addition to the prisons, seashore resorts, and public Christmas celebrations, patients in 271 hospitals have been supplied. The experiences of these men and of pastors and missionaries point to a great dissatisfaction on the part of the masses of Japan with a materialistic civilization, and even the indifference of the government to religion has turned. The promise of harvest from the sowing of the seed seems better than for many years.

After a brief furlough from his territory, Secretary Robert Irwin returned to the Siam Agency in time to have the Agency join in the celebration of the centennial of the beginning of missionary work in Siam. A presentation of a Siamese Bible was made to King Praja Dhupok, and several thousand copies of the Scriptures were distributed to the visitors. The Centennial Historical Sketch includes a review of the Society's thirty-eight years of work in Siam. Meanwhile throughout the year the colporteurs were moving as usual up and down the mountain trails and along the roads between the green fields. In a number of instances the cooperation of the missionaries has made possible extended tours with careful and intensive distribution. In one case the missionary had the opportunity to reap the fruit that came from the distribution of the Scriptures seven years before! Fresh activity appears in the work of the Chinese churches in and about Bangkok, in their acceptance of responsibility for the distribution to their fellow-countrymen in Siam. Such close contact between the Society's work and the churches will here, as everywhere, go far to accomplish the common aim.

In the Philippine Islands, the circulation for the year reached 126,617, the largest in fourteen years. It shows the effects of recovery from the Japan earthquake of 1923, when so many of the printing plates were destroyed. It also reflects the discovery of a new and consecrated group of colporteurs, who have been

reaching distant towns that have not been touched for years. Something of the physical aspect appears in the Agency's extensive use both of a motor-truck and an eighteen-foot sailboat. Miles of fine roads connect the towns in the larger provinces; many more miles of sea, by no means so good, connect the hundreds of islands. The boat should be replaced by a good-sized motor launch. If the gospel must be distributed by sea, the safety of worker and cargo should be guarded and time saved. Mission hospitals, prisons, leper colonies and many other such places have been aided by grants. Agency Secretary G. B. Cameron writes: "During the past year workers have secured from our shelves hundreds of Testaments and many Bibles for their Sunday-school classes in Bilibid Penitentiary."

EUROPE, ASIA, AFRICA, AND THE ISLANDS OF THE SEA

Although thirty-six countries are reached by the work of the Foreign Agencies of the Society, there is still a very considerable territory which the Society serves in other ways. In most cases this service is rendered by cooperation with American or national missionary organizations, in the forwarding of grants of funds or books.

The work so aided in Europe includes Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Germany, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, Belgium, France, Italy, and Russia.

In Belgium, hearty appreciation has been expressed by La Mission Belge Evangélique for grants of funds and of Testaments. Mr. Ralph C. Norton, director, reports an increasing desire for the Scriptures and a new openness of mind to their message.

The Bible Society of France has been assisted in three ways: by grants of Testaments remaining from the war editions; by a grant of funds, which has been used to supply "Marriage Bibles" and New Testaments for catechumens in churches too poor to supply them; and by assistance in the publication of the "library edition" of the New Testament which the Bible Society of France has issued through one of the foremost Paris

publishers, and which has met with much favor among the reading public. It is said to be the first time that the New Testament in a form similar to that of other books has been made available for sale through the bookstores of France.

The Bible Society of Geneva has been aided by a grant of funds, part of which is used particularly to reduce the cost of Bibles to destitute Armenian refugees in Switzerland and a certain part of France.

Some assistance has been given to the churches which are seeking to publish the Scriptures in Russia. It unfortunately appears that the difficulties of importing and of producing in Russia the Scriptures, so earnestly desired by multitudes of Christians there, are constantly increasing and seem to be almost insuperable.

Many indigent theological students in evangelical seminaries in Poland, Germany, and Roumania have been aided by grants of Hebrew and Greek Bibles through the European Central Office for Interchurch Aid.

In the African work there were several notable events. One was the completion of the new edition of the Bulu New Testament, of which 5,000 copies were shipped in April to the Presbyterian Mission in West Africa. Very shortly thereafter word was received that the entire 5,000 had been sold, and a similar shipment is forecast early in the new year. What an occasion for rejoicing both among those who receive the books and among those whose gifts have made the books possible! A second event was the publication and shipment of 1,500 copies of the first edition of the Gospel of St. Mark in Olunyore for the use of a tribe in Kenya, in East Africa. The third occasion was the publication of the revised Tswa New Testament and the shipment of 2,000 of these to the Methodist Episcopal Mission in Inhambane, Portuguese East Africa. These occasions alone make the year significant in the Society's African work; yet one has only to survey the languages and tribes of Africa to realize how much more needs to be

done. A number of grants were made to missions at work in Liberia, and plans are being shaped for the coordination of the work there.

Appreciative reports have been received from the Arcot Mission of the Reformed Church and the Madura Church Council in South India, where modest grants have been helpful in assisting Christian villagers, poor in this world's goods, to be richer in the wealth of the Scriptures.

Hearty acknowledgment has been received from the Misses Baldwin, in the Caroline Islands, for the 2,000 Mortlock Testaments forwarded to them and to the Rev. Ernest Uhlig. To the Gilbert Islands 750 Bibles and 250 Testaments and Psalms were sent, and cordial thanks were received from the London Missionary Society's representatives there. They inform us that further requests for Scriptures will probably be sent to us by wireless. Ordinary mail takes from six to eight months from these Pacific Islands, for which the Society published the New Testament as long ago as 1873 and the whole Bible in 1893.

WORKERS

Again the number of workers associated in the distribution of the Scriptures exceeded the record of the previous year. It totaled 4,163. The marked increase was in the number of volunteers who regularly cooperated with the Society—a most promising feature. The relative number of the believers in the value of the Bible, lay and clerical, at home and abroad, who voluntarily participate in its circulation is an index of the vigor of the Christian Church. There were 369 colporteurs, 1,991 correspondents, and 1,803 volunteers. This was 1 colporteur and 104 correspondents less than the year before, but 669 volunteers more. The Home Agencies reported 1,076 workers; the Foreign Agencies, 2,970; and the foreign correspondents, 117. The 22 Agency Secretaries are not included in these figures; nor are the hosts of Christians, at home and abroad, who have helped in private capacities in placing the

Word of God in the hands of old and young the world around.

AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETIES

The Society continues to rejoice in the cooperation of a number of stalwart Auxiliary Bible Societies. The state societies in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, California, and the local societies in Chicago, Cincinnati, Washington, and Brooklyn continue their cooperation with the local Agencies of the Society. A number of them contribute generously to the world-wide work. The continued cooperation of the state Bible societies in Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Connecticut is an encouragement. A number of local societies scattered throughout the United States not only render local service, but contribute to the general work. Prominent among these are the Welsh societies in Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Vermont, and Wisconsin.

TRANSLATIONS AND REVISIONS

To read the message of the gospel in a strange tongue is like trying to gain an impression of a great and inspiring landscape through a thick veil of fog and mist. The nearby objects are seen with partial clearness, but the great outlines of hill and valley and mountain peak, which one dimly guesses are there, fail to inspire, and extend no invitation to exploration. But when the message is in one's own familiar tongue, the heart leaps up almost at once at the marvelous display, and every feature of the landscape invites closer approach.

Skillful translation is a fog dispeller. Even more than that, those who are not literate in a foreign tongue and who have not the Testament or Bible in their own language are as those who are shut up in a house without windows or doors. Even more unfortunate are those whose native language has never been reduced to writing, and who thus have even greater barriers to freedom and to vision. Possibly a memorized verse or the recollections of the telling of a gospel story may pro-

vide an enthralling peephole into a new world of life and hope. But, under such circumstances, truly the Word of the Lord cannot have free course and be fully glorified. What a marvelous duty and responsibility is that of the translators and of the Society and its allies in their efforts more and more to bring to the nations and tribes of all the world the pentecostal experience!

IN NORTH AMERICA

The Four Gospels in Hopi, prepared by the Rev. J. R. Duerksen of the Mennonite Mission, were delayed by some questions of orthography, but by the end of the year composition had been completed and the Gospel of Matthew was in page form.

The translation of the Four Gospels by members of the Moravian Mission in Alaska into the dialect of the Eskimo Indians living in the valleys of the Kusko-kwim and Togiak Rivers and in the Bristol Bay district was brought to the Society by representatives of the Moravian Church, and the Society has heartily undertaken its publication. These people cannot understand translations in other forms of the Eskimo tongue. An illustration of the significance of the translation is afforded by the fact that these Eskimos are widely scattered,—two or three families here, a few more several miles away,—and thus it is impossible to secure the continuous service of a missionary or a pastor. A copy of the Scriptures is, therefore, often the sole continuous means of religious nurture that such groups have.

Other events of the year have delayed the completion of preparatory work for the Society's new plates of the King James Version, but it is anticipated that this will be completed shortly.

IN LATIN AMERICA

Central America.

In the dialect of Cakchiquel Indians in Guatemala, the correction of the first draft of the New Testament, made by the Rev. W. C. Townsend, has been interrupted by preoccupation with other phases of missionary work; but there is promise that reinforcements

available at the end of the year are enabling him to give more time to the matter. It is hoped that the New Testament will be ready for the press in 1929.

The Gospel of John in Quiché published in 1925 in diglot form with Spanish, as a tentative edition, has been regarded sufficiently satisfactory for the Society to undertake to prepare a regular edition, which will probably be issued in 1929.

The Rev. and Mrs. H. D. Peck, of the Presbyterian Mission in Tonicapan, Guatemala, have returned from their furlough and are prosecuting their studies in the language of the Mam, a tribe of the great Mayan race. In such languages as these, in which there is no heritage of Hebrew, Greek, Latin, or other European terms of expression, the art of translation is one requiring an unusual degree of extremely careful investigation. Patient study of the meanings of native words and forms of expression is needed to be sure that the connotations which they carry will express the message of the gospel as clearly and as richly as possible.

South America

Although the Rev. H. C. McKinney, who has been supervising and carrying forward the translation of the Gospels into Aymara, has been transferred from Bolivia to Cristobal to act as Secretary of the Caribbean Agency during Mr. Gregory's furlough, he has carried forward in correspondence with his colleague, Sr. A. Medina, the correction of the proofs of the Gospel of Mark, which will appear next year in diglot form with Spanish. Some progress upon the other Gospels and upon Acts is reported. Aymara is one of the outstanding languages of the descendants of the great native tribes of the Upper Andean range.

The version of the Psalms in Bolivian Quechua, translated by the Rev. George Allan and his daughter, of the Bolivian Indian Mission, will be issued within the new year. The translation of New Testament portions into Peruvian Quechua has been going forward slowly, but it is expected that rapid progress will now

be made owing to the discovery of a new and well-qualified translator. These Quechua dialects form another of the great Indian tongues of South America, and the completion of the translations and their publication will be of much advantage to the missionary work among these stalwart indigenous peoples.

Some unexpected delays in the completion of the new plates of the Version Moderna of the Spanish Bible in use in Latin America have occurred, but this also will come from the press in the new year.

IN THE NEAR EAST

Probably the most significant and most far-reaching event of the year affecting the current versions of Scriptures in any language is that previously mentioned—the decision of the Government of Turkey to eliminate from the practical use in the national life the old Arabic characters in which Turkish has hitherto been written, and to substitute for these a new alphabet of Latin characters. So far as appearances go, this radical change is not only proposed with seriousness, but has been administered with great firmness, a date having been fixed toward the end of 1928 after which publication within Turkey of books and periodicals in the Arabic characters was prohibited. The shopkeepers have been changing their signs; sailors have been repainting the names of their boats; and in a multitude of ways the nation has been going to school. The greater ease with which the Latin characters can be learned will undoubtedly have large effect in making a multitude of Turks literate who have not been so before—which, in turn, means a new door of great opportunity open to the work of the Bible Societies.

By the end of the year, in addition to the preparation of a biscript edition of Proverbs containing both the old and the new characters, a separate edition of Proverbs in the Latin characters was produced, and the publication of one or two New Testament portions for immediate use is projected. Meanwhile the occa-

sion is the more opportune for undertaking the revision of the Turkish Bible. The present version, first produced in 1885 (itself a revision of earlier versions), has been found to be unacceptable, both because of the considerable changes which have taken place in the Turkish language and because of the large number of terms in the version which are not purely Turkish, but which come from some other kindred Near Eastern tongue. These have made the older version unattractive to many, whose interest in its literary character is the gateway to their appreciation of its religious meaning.

Much difficulty has been found in securing suitable Turkish translators; but it is believed that this has now been overcome, and, through the courtesy of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, the Rev. F. W. MacCallum, D.D., has been set aside to supervise the work and bring to it the critical consideration of a scholar trained both in Turkish and in the original languages of the Scriptures. Preliminary work upon the Gospel of Luke and upon the Psalms was in process when the year closed. The British and Foreign Bible Society is joining with the American Bible Society in sponsoring this revision.

IN THE FAR EAST

In the Philippines, it will be remembered that the Japan earthquake, by the destruction of existing plates, afforded occasion for revising the dialect Scriptures already issued, before making plates for new printings. This work has very largely been completed, and 1928 has seen the completion of the revision and of the publication of the Samareño and Tagalog New Testaments. In the revision of the former, Mrs. A. J. Hall has rendered heroic service, completing the work with exactitude in spite of illness. The opportunity afforded by the existence of the committees for these revisions is being taken to go forward with the similarly needed revisions of the Old Testaments, and these will be in progress during the next year, as will also needed corrections in the Ilocano plates.

In Siam, work continues slowly upon the revision of the Siamese New Testament, of which the revision of I Corinthians is now on the press. The transliteration of the New Testament into the Tai Lu script from the Tai Yuan script is going forward.

In China, the matter to which particular attention has been given has been the appointment jointly by the American Bible Society and the British and Foreign Bible Society, of a committee to revise the Canton Colloquial Old Testament, following the revision of the New Testament which was completed and issued in 1926. The completed Bible in this important colloquial dialect will thus correspond with the Union Version in the more widely spoken Mandarin.

IN AFRICA

In the translation work in Africa there is a fine note of achievement.

The first complete New Testament in Luragoli (Ragoli) was issued. Missionary activity among these people is carried on by the Friends' Mission. The translation is the result of the work of Mr. E. J. Rees. These people, numbering something over 250,000, occupy a great region on the western borders of Kenya Colony in East Africa, not far from Lake Victoria. It is in the planting of such seed as this that the hope of a native church in Africa is found.

A tentative edition of the New Testament Epistles (excepting Hebrews) in Olunyore has been printed and sent out to the translator, Mrs. H. C. Kramer, in another portion of the Kenya Colony near Lake Victoria. This will be used experimentally, as is the case also with the Gospel of Mark sent forward earlier, until a definitive edition is produced.

The need for the revision of the Tswa (Sheetswa) New Testament has at last been met by the publication of the revised edition, prepared chiefly by the Rev. J. A. Persson of the Methodist Episcopal Mission in Portuguese East Africa. The first version of the Tswa Bible was prepared by the Rev. E. H. Richards, D.D., and

published by the Society in 1910 (New Testament, 1903). The importance of this new publication can be estimated by the fact that there are about half a million of these people living between the Sabi and Limpopo Rivers in Portuguese East Africa. Large numbers of the men have also migrated to work in the mines in and about Johannesburg. This revision is in effect a new translation, the results of which are much commended. An indication both of the problems of the translators and of the influence of Christianity in bringing new richness into the language is shown by this statement from Mr. Persson:

When attempting the rendering of words which have been brought into our language by our religion, one is often faced with the fact that there are no native synonyms, because the idea is foreign to the native mind. We have not been able to find a truly native name for God in the language of the Tswa people. The word now used, *Nungungulu*, really means the Great-great, but having been employed for forty years by the Christian community, it has been invested with the sanctity and reverence Christians in other lands accord the name of our Heavenly Father. For "holy" we are still using a word meaning "white"; but long usage makes it unnecessary to explain the difference between "white" and "holy." No muTswa makes the mistake of thinking of the Holy Spirit as being white. In the old translation, "Redeemer" was rendered by a word meaning "to set free," or "to untie." A better understanding of native customs has enabled us to change this, and a word is used meaning "to redeem a prisoner taken in war." A number of such instances might be quoted.

But, if the language is poor in words expressing moral and spiritual values, it is very rich in words relating to the things of everyday life. It has more than thirty words to express what we mean by the single word "cut." The muTswa can by one word describe things for which we require a dozen or more. On the other hand there are things of common occurrence in other countries which cannot be expressed in Tswa. The soil of the country is sandy; there is no stony ground; thus it was difficult to render Matthew 13:5, where it tells of the seed which fell upon the rocky places. The preacher taking that as his text will have to spend considerable time explaining what is meant.

The year has also seen the completion of the Gospel of St. John into the Shilluk, the language of a warlike African tribe in the south of the Sudan. This is chiefly

the work of the Rev. D. S. Oyler, of whom Agency Secretary Strong writes:

To enter a field occupied by a naked pagan tribe, to settle down among a hostile people without being able to exchange an idea and to learn their language to such perfection that each sound has been expressed in Latin letters, is, indeed, a labor of love and patience that calls for our deepest appreciation.

A corrected edition of the Four Gospels and Acts in Benga has been prepared by Mr. A. G. Adams, of the Presbyterian Mission in West Africa. This, bound up with an earlier edition of the remainder of the New Testament, will furnish a complete New Testament in one binding. It is significant that, though the numbers of the Benga tribe itself are few, the language is a basis of common understanding among a group of neighboring tribes; and, though its use is diminishing because of the results of closer contact with languages of much more widespread utility, it is still of missionary value. Some of these books are earnestly desired by Christians in the Spanish territory of Rio Muni, in order that they may maintain their religious life though separated from the influences in the Cameroons under which they first heard the gospel.

WAYS AND MEANS

The department of Ways and Means in its cultivation of income-producing sources, in its methods of securing legitimate publicity, and in its promotion of Universal Bible Sunday can report an encouraging year. Through the patience and efficiency of a well-organized office force the transition to new leadership was made without undue disturbance to routine and method.

SOURCES OF INCOME

1. *Churches.* The department endeavored in 1928 both to maintain and to strengthen its relationship with the denominations which recognize the Society as a vital agency in the field of Christian service. It is gratifying to record that many denominations, in hearty sympathy with the Society's aim and depending upon it as their agent in making the Bible more widely and

more easily available, are ready to support the Society as their resources permit.

Contributions totaling \$212,193.81 were received during 1928 from 44 denominations, representing an increase of \$861.11 over the receipts for 1927. Twenty-one denominations each contributed over \$500. The list of churches so contributing is as follows:

Denominations	Amount
Methodist Episcopal	\$340,442.12
Presbyterian (U. S. A.)	35,267.85
Methodist Episcopal (South)	33,366.49
Presbyterian (U. S.)	16,475.34
Presbyterian (United)	6,079.23
Congregationalist	5,196.70
Reformed (in America)	5,053.24
Lutheran (Missouri)	3,599.25
African Methodist Episcopal	2,306.25
Reformed (in U. S.)	2,731.99
Reformed (Dutchess)	2,025.27
Adventist (Seventh Day)	1,525.90
African M. E. Zion	1,449.19
Presbyterian (Cumberland)	1,254.37
Lutheran (Augustana Synod)	1,074.34
Methodist Protestant	1,624.67
Church of the Brethren	1,021.83
United Brethren	1,006.00
Moravian	995.06
Disciples	787.48
Protestant Episcopal	504.90

The past two decades have seen the budget method of caring for denominational benevolences grow in favor, with the result that ten denominations now recognize the Society on the budget basis. The list and the percentages officially adopted are as follows:

Denominations	Percentages
Methodist Episcopal Church, South	2.247
Methodist Episcopal Church	1.2366
Cumberland Presbyterian Church	1.
Methodist Protestant Church	1.
Presbyterian Church in the U. S.	1.
Reformed Church in America	1.
Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.	.75
Reformed Church in the U. S.	.46
Church of the Brethren	.257
United Lutheran Church in America	.25

In order to maintain the percentages officially adopted, and in some instances to urge an increase in the percentage, and in every instance to bring appropriate

information about the Society's work to the official denominational gatherings, it is advisable for officers of the Society to attend a number of the annual conventions, assemblies, conferences, and synods. Such contacts, in addition to familiarizing the representatives of denominations with the Society's program, provide an opportunity for personal relationships between denominational leaders and the Society's official family. During 1928 twenty-one such gatherings were visited. It is quite heartening to observe the uniformly genuine esteem in which the leaders of the various denominations regard the Society.

Perhaps the outstanding event of 1928 in the list of methods whereby denominational cooperation is achieved was the tenth annual gathering of the Advisory Council, which met on Tuesday, December 4. In the decade since the formation of the Advisory Council it is of interest to observe an increase from nine denominations appointing representatives in 1919 to twenty-seven this year.

In reporting the receipt of \$212,193.81 from the churches for the year 1928, it is a matter for gratification to observe that the gradual decline in such receipts has been stemmed.

2. *Individual Gifts.* Throughout the United States and in many foreign countries the American Bible Society has thousands of friends who make contributions to the Society's work, varying in amount from twenty-five cents up to \$2,500. In numerous instances these supporters have made their contributions year after year, thereby expressing their continued confidence in the work conducted by the Society. About forty per cent of the donors have been sending their gifts annually for four years or longer. Some have contributed for ten, fifteen, and twenty years, and a few have helped for as many as thirty consecutive years.

During 1928 the home office of the Society received from 21,473 individuals a total of \$155,354.86 as compared with 21,723 donors in 1927 whose gifts totaled

\$156,881.41. These figures do not include gifts from individuals received through the Home Agencies. For the last four years the annual average of all gifts received from individuals aside from contributions for special causes has been \$154,074, with but very slight variations each year from this average. It would appear, therefore, that, if there is to be any increase of receipts from this source, departures must of necessity be made from the present method of direct-by-mail appeal.

3. *Annuities*. The third source of income for which the department of Ways and Means has responsibility,—that of *annuities*—proved during 1928 to be a fruitful field. The total of 647 annuity bond agreements issued was the largest number written in any single year and was an increase of 37 over the number issued in 1927, which in turn was a record year. However, the value of the bonds, \$533,938.14, was \$30,741.69 less than those issued during 1927. For the fourth year in succession the total number of annuity bond agreements issued annually has in amount exceeded half a million dollars.

PUBLICITY

The department of Ways and Means employs four methods to keep the activities and needs of the Society before its constituency. During 1928 these methods were all in active operation.

1. *News Releases*. To the daily papers 21 news releases were sent. Some or all of these were used in 36 states of the Union. Sixty-nine special articles and 175 electros were sent to religious journals for use during the year. It is significant to note that the editors of religious papers are usually ready to accept, and give space to, the Society's accomplishments.

2. *Paid advertising*. Three types of advertising have been employed:

(a) For a number of years, during the season of the year when national assemblies and conventions are in session, advertisements designed to carry information

have been placed in the denominational periodicals. In addition, small three-inch advertisements, informative in character, were used during the final months of 1928.

(b) Advertising in explanation of the annuity plan has been utilized for some time. There were no departures during 1928 from the method hitherto obtaining, save, perhaps, a larger emphasis upon the varied uses to which money given on the annuity basis will ultimately be put by the Society.

(c) During 1928 in anticipation of Universal Bible Sunday, advertising more extended than usual was placed, in order to keep the date and occasion of Bible Sunday before the pastors and the readers of church papers.

3. *Leaflets.* During the year the Ways and Means department sent out 1,501,373 leaflets. Included were 32,000 leaflets especially prepared for circularizing leaders of Christian Endeavor societies in connection with the prayer meeting topic for January 15, "What Difference Does Reading the Bible Make?"; 65,000 leaflets used by the United Presbyterian Church in its White Gift Campaign; 5,000 leaflets used by the Epworth League of the Methodist Episcopal Church, North, and 5,500 by the Epworth League summer assemblies of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. For Bible schools and summer conferences 11,000 leaflets were used by the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.; 5,000 by the Presbyterian Church in the U. S.; and 4,000 by the United Presbyterian Church. Among other places this literature was sent to religious gatherings held at Stony Brook, Long Island; Chautauqua, New York; Montreat, North Carolina; Grove City, Pennsylvania; New Concord, Ohio; Lexington, Nebraska, and New Wilmington, Pennsylvania. An attractive new leaflet, "The What, Where and Why of the American Bible Society," designed to answer the questions raised by its title, was prepared during the year and has already appeared in a second edition.

4. *Exhibits.* The three most advantageous exhibits during the year, from the point of view of publicity, were those in connection with the World's Sunday-school Association Convention in Los Angeles, where 1,700 persons registered attendance in the Society's booth, and from which material was later borrowed for exhibit purposes by the public library of the city of Los Angeles; the exhibit in connection with the Seventh Annual Exposition of Women's Arts and Industries in New York City; and that at the Parents' Exposition, likewise in New York City, in which the Ways and Means department cooperated with the Eastern Agency in furnishing exhibit material.

UNIVERSAL BIBLE SUNDAY

The 1928 promotion of Universal Bible Sunday, one of the most significant activities of the Ways and Means department, resulted in apparently the widest observance yet given to that day. The colorful poster and folder sent out with the suggestive brochure on the theme "Sowing the Seed" met with a hearty welcome. The requests for this material coming from forty-seven denominations exceeded by twenty-five per cent those of the preceding year. Sample sets of literature were sent to 77,275 pastors of all denominations throughout the entire United States.

PUBLICATION

From time to time some one says that Bibles are not bound as attractively as the latest best-selling novels. Whether such chromatic bindings wear well and would be appropriate in churches and Sunday schools, is, of course, a matter to be fully considered. At any rate, it would not be necessary to hire anyone to write blurbs to put on a paper cover or jacket for the world's great Book of Books. The trouble would be to select from the great mass of material available something to do full justice to the Word of God. It is of interest to note, however, that while the Society has bound Bibles in yellow, red, and blue cloth for work in Latin America,

it has found that many who received these Bibles preferred darker colors.

With regard to the present edition of one-cent Gospels in English and other languages, however, there does not appear to be any such complaint. These little booklets, with their bright-colored pictures in red, gold and black on the cover, are meeting with a very enthusiastic reception. One evangelist, who made use of some of the penny Gospels with pictures, and also of the former edition without pictures, says that people grab for the ones with pictures. Those who are interested in Bible distribution and in the reading of the Scriptures by young and old should certainly make it a point to see the New Testament in eleven such separate volumes, and also the Book of Proverbs as well. Each booklet has an individual illustration in three colors on the cover. Black and white maps and pictures are included in the text where space is available. Some of the same books can also be had in a number of foreign languages.

It was estimated, at the beginning of the year, that the sales in the United States of America would amount to about \$410,000. This figure does not include the sales of Scriptures on the foreign field. As the year passed, it became apparent that the sales would not be as large as estimated, the total net receipts under the budget being only \$367,764.63. The amount expended to replace the stock sold was also reduced, and amounted to only \$337,000. As a result of this, the inventory of Scriptures at catalog prices was smaller in value by about \$30,000, but the manufacturing inventory was slightly larger.

To what extent, if any, the increased sale of portions during 1927 and 1928 has cut into the sale of Bibles and Testaments is a matter of considerable interest. This matter is now being studied by the Publication Committee and by other committees of the Society.

NEW BOOKS

The New Testament in Luragoli was printed from plates that were completed during the year. The Olu-

nyore Scriptures—I Corinthians to Jude, with the exception of Hebrews—was printed from type, as an experimental edition. Portuguese Acts and Romans in the one-cent series were released for issue during the year and added to the Four Gospels and Book of Proverbs in this language. The largest piece of work during the year was the completion of making the plates for the Spanish Moderna Bible with central references.

FINANCES

Income and expenses under the budget were balanced in 1928, but only by a sharp cut in the appropriations at the end of the year. As a result, \$25,000 that had been appropriated for various phases of the Society's world-wide program was pared off the budget. This was done by direction of the Board of Managers when it was apparent that the income from individuals would fall about \$10,000, and the income from churches about \$13,000, short of the amount estimated. It is interesting to note that, while the income from churches and individuals did not measure up to what had been expected and approved by the Advisory Council, the income from churches showed a slight increase over 1927.

The various items of budget income and expenses are given herewith. It will be noted in the income statement that four of the eleven items are adjusted each year so that the income equals the amount estimated and appropriated. The explanation of this is given in the text which follows, with the exception of that on sales, which is given under Publication. The total income for the year, as reported under the budget, appears to be \$1,240.78 more than the amount expended. It must be noted, however, that gifts amounting to \$1,152.62 were received for special purposes, and were not expended during the year, but were carried over at the end of the year. Except for this income, which, under the terms of the gift, is designated to a particular work, the income and expenses for the year were practically

identical. Let it be remembered, however, that this result was achieved only by the drastic action of the Board of Managers, already recorded, in cutting down the appropriations before the end of the year.

INCOME FOR THE YEAR 1928

	<i>Estimated</i>	<i>Received</i>
Legal Trusts—Including Ogg Legacy, Sage Fund and Available Investments.....	\$117,500.00	\$120,229.91
Legacies	75,000.00	75,000.00
Bible House, Net	45,000.00	45,000.00
Sales	410,000.00	410,000.00
Churches (Excluding Foreign Agencies)	225,000.00	212,193.81
Individuals (Excluding Foreign Agencies) ..	170,000.00	160,025.35
Auxiliaries	20,000.00	16,263.48
Annuities	25,000.00	25,000.00
Gifts for the Blind—Legacy for Blind.....	8,000.00	7,391.00
Income from Funds for Blind	2,250.00	2,237.22
Miscellaneous	3,000.00	3,756.69
Total	\$1,100,750.00	\$1,077,097.46

EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR 1928

	<i>Appropriated</i>	<i>Expended</i>
General Administration	\$81,363.00	\$80,481.03
Treasurer's Office	23,289.00	18,996.15
Ways and Means	68,378.00	67,098.80
General Distribution	85,050.00	69,091.86
Publication Department	410,000.00	410,000.00
Home Agencies	153,970.00	153,970.00
Foreign Agencies	278,700.00	276,211.84
Total	\$1,100,750.00	\$1,075,849.68

LEGACIES

In 1928, receipts from legacies were \$70,975.03 net. This was considerably less than the year before, and also less than the amount called for under the budget. It was necessary, therefore, to withdraw \$4,024.97 from the legacy equalization account. This again proves the need for having such a legacy equalization account, and for estimating over several years, rather than for each year, the amount to be received and expended from legacies. No budget could be built that would correspond accurately with the wide variations in this source of income.

During the year, \$20,013.93 was received and added to the general trust fund account. As indicated in the

budget, the income from trust funds, the endowment, and all other available securities, is less than twelve per cent of the amount needed for carrying on the Society's work.

ANNUITIES

There was an increase in the number of annuity agreements written in 1928; 647 being issued as against 610 the previous year. The total amount received, however, was \$533,938.14 as against \$564,697.83. The size of the annuity program is indicated by expenses in excess of income amounting to about \$72,000. The income received from securities, including income from the annuity reserve, amounted to over \$160,000.

Sixty-six annuities were terminated during the year, by death or by the owner deciding to make a gift of his or her active current annuity to the Society's general work. The value of annuities terminated by death and that were available for general purposes amounted to \$109,483.88; so that after making an appropriation of \$25,000 to the general budget, about \$14,000 was added to the annuity reserve account. This reversed the procedure of the previous year, when the annuity reserve was drawn upon.

The present liability on annuity bonds outstanding on June 30, 1928, was estimated on a standard that is much stricter than the legal valuation standard of any state. This standard was McClintock's valuation at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent increased 5 per cent. It showed a total reserve liability of \$2,061,546 after excluding sixteen contracts on which the Society assumed no direct liability, or in which the annuity was deferred to an indefinite future date. As the securities in the annuity account covering the annuities valued were well over \$1,000,000 more than this amount, it is evident that a large additional reserve is maintained over and above the amount required by the most exacting legislation. This makes the purchase of an annuity from the Amer-

ican Bible Society one of the soundest and safest investments that can be obtained, while at the same time the Bible cause is eventually strengthened and benefited.

TAXATION OF ANNUITIES

During the year it was possible to obtain further interpretations of a recent ruling of the Treasury Department, I. T. 2397, VII 5-3591 (p. 3), affecting the Revenue Act of 1926. This ruling, as interpreted by the Treasury Department, affects all annuities of religious, educational or charitable corporations. By it the amount of exemption granted as a return of principal parted with by the annuitant is somewhat limited. Inquiries were started, that resulted in establishing a definite basis upon which annuities are split into (1) the principal or market value of the annuity for Federal income tax refund of principal purposes; (2) the amount of gift that may be claimed by the annuitant in his Federal income tax, covering the year in which the annuity was taken out. This information was not available until the very end of the year, but at that time plans were prepared to forward it as soon as possible to the Society's annuitants who were most immediately affected.

BIBLE HOUSE

As the appropriation in the general budget from income from the Bible House for 1928 was increased \$5,000, to \$45,000, the amount applied to refunding improvements made, over previous years, was reduced to only \$15,890.75. This left a total cost of improvements not yet written off of \$108,110.40. Rentals did not improve during the year, and at the end of the year there were more vacancies than at the beginning.

Several offers were received during the year to purchase the Bible House property or to lease it. An appraisal of the property was made by competent appraisers. So far no offer has been received as high as the amount of this appraisal.

AUDITS

Annual audits of all of the Society's Agencies, and of the Home Office are made each year, and are available for inspection in the Treasurer's office.

THE BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

The average circulation of the *Bible Society Record* rose from 31,000 in 1927 to 32,000 in 1928, the largest issue being that for January—33,700 copies. That issue carried a brief review of the plans and budget for the year, together with comments and actions by the Advisory Council. The February issue was largely given to record of the jubilee of the Brazil Agency, while the special feature of the March issue was a report on the work among the blind. The June issue was, as usual, given to a review of the work of the previous year.

Comments on various issues from many sources indicated that the varied material of the *Record* was both interesting and helpful to its readers.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Of the 112TH ANNUAL REPORT, a volume of 450 pages, 1,600 copies were printed and distributed largely to libraries, missionary and other societies and boards, as well as to individual friends of the Society. An edition of 5,000 of the brief Board of Managers' Report was printed with illustrations, and used somewhat widely; especially in informing the members of general church gatherings, such as assemblies, synods, and conventions, of the work of the Society. Of a variety of other leaflets, some for general informational purposes, others for use in obtaining support for our work, 428,000 were published during the year, together with 70,500 price lists, large and small, and 56,000 single page circulars and promotional material. This did not include Bible Sunday literature elsewhere reported. The leaflet "How to Use the Bible" continues to be the most widely called for, 275,000 being issued during the year.

IN MEMORIAM

The Society lost three of its honored Vice-Presidents during the year: Edgar Fahs Smith, LL.D., former provost of the University of Pennsylvania, on May 3, 1928; the Hon. Robert Lansing, LL.D., former Secretary of State, on October 30, 1928; and Mr. John Davis Sage, an outstanding citizen of Cincinnati, Ohio, on December 4, 1928.

From the ranks of its Managers it also lost three, each of whom had rendered the Society valuable service: Dr. Talcott Williams, a valuable member of its Committees on Versions and Publication, on January 24, 1928; Mr. William H. Klenke, an important and active member of its Committee on Ways and Means, on February 26, 1928; and Mr. Paul R. Towne, for several years its counsel and active member of its Finance Committee, on June 22, 1928.

The Rev. Bishop Luther B. Wilson, D.D., LL.D., for fifteen years a Ministerial Member of the Board, died on June 4, 1928.

CHANGES AND ADDITIONS IN PERSONNEL

For the second year in succession, the Society lost one of its General Secretaries. On June 5, 1928, death ended the long service of the Rev. William Ingraham Haven, D.D., LL.D., who became one of the Secretaries in 1899. Fuller reference to this serious loss is made on page 11 of the 112TH ANNUAL REPORT.

On April 5, 1928, Associate Secretary Eric M. North, Ph.D., was elected a General Secretary in charge of the work of distribution of the Society, and on the same day the Rev. George William Brown, M.A., was elected a General Secretary in charge of the Ways and Means Department. He came from an active pastorate of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., having served as a chaplain during the World War.

Sr. H. T. Marroquin, who had been in charge of the Mexico Agency, was appointed its Secretary toward the beginning of the year.

NEWLY ELECTED VICE-PRESIDENTS

In November, 1928, Josiah H. Penniman, LL.D., provost of the University of Pennsylvania, was elected a Vice-President, and on December 6th, John H. Finley, LL.D., of the *New York Times*, was elected to the same office.

NEWLY ELECTED MANAGERS

Three new members were added, by election, to the Board during the year: Edward S. Malmar and Ray Clark Tillinghast, in January; and James H. Post, in November.

In October, Bishop Francis John McConnell, Ph.D., LL.D., became a Ministerial Member of the Board.

CHANGES IN THE BOARD

During the course of the year, Howard O. Wood and the Rev. Lewis T. Reed, D.D., found it necessary to resign.

LIFE DIRECTORS AND LIFE MEMBERS

During the year, 14 Life Directors, 175 Life Members, and 6 Memorial Members were added.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

In May, the Rev. Thomas Chalmers Vinson and the Rev. A. L. Warnshuis, D.D., were elected Honorary Life Members.

CONCLUSION

From a young Indian lad in Arizona, who had received a copy of the Scriptures through the ministry of the Society, there came this word of appreciation: "I have received the Bible which you sent the Indian boys and girls, so I am thanking you. I know it will help me to be better and draw me near to Jesus our Saviour." From a German baroness in her ninety-sixth year there came a generous offering for the Society's work and in the concluding paragraph of her letter these words occurred: "That the Lord may continue to bless your

efforts to spread his holy Word throughout the whole world is my sincere prayer."

These two letters from geographical areas widely separated and from persons contrasted in age and in environment are illustrative both of the service rendered by the Society and the means whereby such service is made possible. The character-forming Book helps to produce persons zealous to be Christ-like as its distribution is made possible through the prayerful support of those who love the Lord Christ and yearn for the day when "the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea."

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS



REPORT from the Executive Officers is in place and justified so far as it supplements the report of the Board of Managers on features of the work of the Society needing record. The following pages are to accomplish this end.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Brief reference to the Advisory Council is made in the Managers Report. Additional information about the meeting held on December 4 is timely. It was the tenth meeting of the Advisory Council with the Budget Committee of the American Bible Society. Of the twenty-six denominations which had appointed members, nineteen were represented at the meeting. Two have been members of the Council for ten years—the Rev. Dr. E. J. Blekkink, representing the Reformed Church in America, and Prof. H. C. Alleman, D.D., representing the United Lutheran Church in America. Several have been members for much of the time, and others were newly appointed, thus accomplishing the desirable twofold end—continuity and change. The Rev. Bishop Francis J. McConnell, D.D., made an opening address, chiefly on the importance and service of translations of the Scriptures. Time was given to discussion of how local churches may become effective centers for the distribution of Scriptures; of the importance of a pension plan for the staff of the Society at home and abroad; and the special need for the supply of Scriptures in Latin America. Action was taken advising approach to denominations through state organizations where that method would be convenient. The Council joined with the Budget Committee in recommending to the Board of Managers the budget for 1929, seriously regretting that a fair estimate of the

PRINTING IN OTHER LANDS

- At Beirut, in Arabic, 5,531 Bibles, 8,300 Testaments, 259,270 portions; in Armenian, 298 Bibles, 10 Testaments, 397 portions; in Ancient Greek, 50 Bibles.
- At Constantinople, in Armenian Ancient and Armenian Modern, 1,495 Bibles, 1,434 Testaments, 6,106 portions; in Hebrew, 49 Bibles, 468 portions; in Arabic and Turkish, 707 Bibles, 600 Testaments, 6,280 portions; in Armenian and Turkish, 560 Bibles, 310 Testaments, 15,200 portions; in Greek and Turkish, 50 Bibles; in Judæo-Spanish, 102 Bibles, 200 portions.
- At Vienna, in Armenian, 7 Bibles; in Ancient Greek, 24 Bibles; in Armenian Turkish, 1,000 Bibles.
- At Manila, in Bicol, 9,859 portions; in Cebuan, 5,000 portions; in Ilocano, 7,756 Testaments; in Pampangan, 1,933 Testaments, 6,000 portions; in Panayan, 3,178 Testaments; in Samareño, 4,929 Testaments, 4,947 portions; in Tagalog, 5,039 Testaments, 26,403 portions.
- At Bangkok, in Siamese, 45,930 portions; in Tai Lu, 10,000 portions.
- At Shanghai, in Mandarin, 2,605 Bibles, 65,776 Testaments, 4,927,000 portions; in Wenli 255 Bibles, 10,500 Testaments, 143,000 portions; in Canton Colloquial, 280 Bibles, 1,660 Testaments, 40,500 portions; in Canton and English, 500 Testaments; in Foochow Colloquial, 5 Bibles, 5,050 Testaments; in Shanghai Colloquial, 10 Bibles, 500 Testaments.
- At Tokyo and Kobe, in Japanese, 13,012 Bibles, 30,200 Testaments, 1,006,000 portions; in Japanese Braille, 835 portions.

SCRIPTURES PRINTED AND PURCHASED

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
Printed in the U. S.....	267,300	243,500	3,532,000	4,044,604
		Blind—	1,804	
Purchased in the U. S.....	3,687	696	252	4,635
Imported from abroad.....	63,198	21,960	89,344	174,803
		Blind—	301	
Printed abroad	29,558	147,675	6,545,580	6,723,648
		Blind—	835	
Purchased abroad	18,844	33,135	155,640	207,619
Total	382,587	446,966	10,325,756	11,155,309

ISSUES

Still another year the total of issues has reached a new high figure. The Foreign Agencies lead with a total, mentioned in the Managers' Report, of 6,484,626 volumes; while at home the issues were 4,547,868, making a grand total of 11,032,494 volumes of Scripture for the 113th year, issued as follows:

IN OTHER LANDS

Bibles	54,297	
Testaments	254,462	
Portions	6,174,991	
Volumes for the Blind	876	
	—————	6,484,626

AT HOME**From the Bible House:**

Bibles	250,716
Testaments	363,641
Portions	3,930,481
Volumes for the Blind	2,266
	4,547,104

Two Home Agencies—Special:

Bibles	6
Testaments	507
Portions	251
	784
	4,547,868

Total number of volumes 11,032,494

During the year, there were issued from the Bible House in New York, 3,790,062 volumes in English, consisting of 184,552 Bibles, 292,997 Testaments and Testaments and Psalms, 3,310,247 portions, and 2,266 volumes in the various raised systems for the blind. Of the Bibles and Testaments, 17,637 were in the American Revised Version. In addition, there were 1,328 Concordances issued.

The languages, other than English, in which the largest number of volumes were issued, were Spanish, 534,188; Italian, 41,328; Portuguese, 32,543; French, 19,902; Polish, 18,880; German, 15,793; Japanese, 11,357; and Chinese Canton Colloquial, 10,352. Again there is gratification over the issue of over 5,000 volumes in Russian (5,077), for restrictions of the Soviet Government have practically prohibited the publication of Scriptures in Russia. Bulu, with 5,095, and Olunyore, with 3,500 volumes, are the languages emanating from Africa which led among the fourteen languages of that continent in which were issued Scriptures in 1928. The 114 languages other than English in which the Bible House supplied Scriptures during 1928 are listed below. In addition, they were supplied in eight embossed systems used by the blind. This makes a total of 122 languages, dialects, and systems in which the Bible House rendered service during the year under report.

<i>Languages</i>	<i>Volumes</i>	<i>Languages</i>	<i>Volumes</i>
Albanian	793	Hawaiian	180
Amharic	5	Hebrew	1,864
Arabic	761	Hindi	1,006
Arapahoe	2	Hungarian	2,487
Armenian, Modern	390	Ibanag	12
Armenian, Ancient	1	Ibo	1
Bambara	1	Icelandic	8
Benga	1	Ilocano	1,659
Bengali	2,704	Irish	11
Bicol	264	Italian	41,328
Braid Scot	3	Japanese	11,357
Bulgarian	13	Javanese	2,000
Bulu	5,095	Korean	8
Catalan	1	Kroo	1
Cebuan	962	Kurdish	27
Cherokee	3	Latin	500
Chinese: Wenli Easy	28	Lettish	7
Chinese: Wenli Easy (Dele- gates' Version)	2	Lithuanian	1,095
Chinese: Wenli Easy (Union Version)	6	Luba-Lulua	23
Chinese: Mandarin (Peking Union)	31	Malay, Low	1,017
Chinese: Mandarin (Pho- netic)	77	Malay, Arabic	1
Chinese: Canton Colloquial	10,352	Maltese	12
Chinese: High Wenli (Clas- sical)	9	Mapudungu	1
Choctaw	21	Marathi	1
Croatian	900	Miskito	1
Czechoslovakian	2,785	Mpongwe	30
Dakota	92	Nauru	4
Danish	276	Navaho	42
Dutch	3,757	Norwegian, Gothic	1,797
Esperanto	41	Norwegian, Roman	276
Esthonian	558	Ojibwa	56
Ethiopic	1	Olunyore	3,500
Fiji	1	Pampangan	6
Finnish, Roman	145	Panayan	11
Finnish, Gothic	130	Pangasinan	8
Flemish	1,279	Persian	10
French	19,902	Polish	18,880
Frisian	1	Portuguese	32,543
Gaelic	9	Quechua (Bolivia)	868
Gagauzi	1	Quechua (Ecuador)	26
German	15,793	Quechua (Peru)	1
Gilbert Islands	1,000	Roumanian	388
Græco-Turkish	2	Russian	5,077
Greek, Modern	5,067	Ruthenian	2,024
Greek, Ancient	1,954	Samoa	1
Gujarati	1,000	Seneca	1
		Serbian	791
		Siamese	3

<i>Languages</i>	<i>Volumes</i>	<i>Languages</i>	<i>Volumes</i>
Sinhalese	1,000	Turkish, Arabic Characters	103
Slavic	41	Turkish, Armenian Characters (Armeno-Turkish) .	76
Slovak	1,646	Urdu	1,408
Slovenian	470	Vejoz	1
Spanish	534,188	Welsh	215
Swedish	3,591	Yiddish	1,353
Syriac, Ancient	11	Yoruba	1
Syriac, Modern	1,289	Zulu	1,953
Tagalog	830		
Tamil	1		
Temne	1		
Tswa (Sheetswa)	1,672		

DISTRIBUTION FROM THE BIBLE HOUSE

The distribution in the United States from the Bible House fell a million below that reported for 1927, being 3,898,509 volumes. Besides these, the Bible House was responsible for sending 648,575 volumes to foreign lands. The great bulk—604,228—went to the islands of the West Indies and the Latin American republics. Details of this service are presented herewith:

DISTRIBUTION TO FOREIGN LANDS

(Year Ending Dec. 31, 1928)

<i>Country</i>	<i>Volumes</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Volumes</i>
Africa	4,780	Japan	3,654
Australia	1,000	La Plata	297,191
Austria	2	Mexico	56,100
Brazil	31,549	Philippines	25,997
Canada	163	Siam	143
Caribbean	89,104	Upper Andes	37,948
China	688	West Indies	92,328
Dutch Guiana	8		
England	6,403	Total to foreign lands .	648,575
Fiji	6	Total to United States .	3,898,509
Hawaii	1,456		
India	5	Aggregate issues from	
Italy	50	the Bible House . . .	4,547,084

SERVICE TO THE BLIND

The following tabular statements on service to the blind will be useful for reference:

FROM THE BIBLE HOUSE

<i>System</i>	<i>During 1928</i>	<i>Grand Total to Dec. 31, 1928</i>
Line Letter	50	27,341
New York Point	379	25,911
American Braille	122	6,648

System	During 1928	Grand Total to Dec. 31, 1928
Revised Braille Grade 1½.....	1,272	7,050
Moon	355	6,970
English Braille	75	936
Spanish Braille	12	28
French Braille	—	4
Arabic Moon	1	1
Total	2,266	74,889

IN FOREIGN LANDS

Mexico—Spanish Braille	8	169
Caribbean—American Braille	—	21
Brazil—Portuguese Braille	23	343
Arabic Levant*	161	557
Levant—Armenian Braille	—	6
Siam—Siamese Braille	—	59
Japan—Japanese Braille	524	8,559
China—Canton Colloquial Braille.....	16	16
Mandarin Braille	25	25
Total	757	9,755

REMITTANCES TO FOREIGN LANDS, 1928

The pendulum swung back a little during 1928, for both in number of books and in funds remitted there were decreases. However, a real service was rendered as will be indicated by the following table:

Agency	Books	Funds	Total
Brazil	\$14,260.76	\$4,888.46	\$19,149.22
Caribbean	5,144.03	7,570.19	12,714.22
China	270.50	53,309.54	53,580.04
Japan	1,925.18	19,496.57	21,421.75
La Plata	11,647.01	17,120.59	28,767.60
Arabic Levant . . . . .	.....	32,108.17	32,108.17
Levant . . . . .	.....	24,916.30	24,916.30
Mexico	9,332.26	6,680.96	16,013.22
Philippines	1,419.24	21,583.28	23,002.52
Siam	38.81	19,174.80	19,213.61
Upper Andes	4,550.63	12,207.21	16,757.84
West Indies	8,697.79	9,954.73	18,652.52
Total	\$57,286.21	\$229,010.80	\$286,297.01
To missionary and other societies for work in foreign lands	3,536.68	9,153.80	12,690.48
To individuals for use abroad	1,191.44	415.00	1,606.44
Total	\$62,014.33	\$238,579.60	\$300,593.93

RÉSUMÉ OF WORK IN FOREIGN LANDS

The table herewith presents at a glance a résumé of the statistics and a review together with the corresponding figures of the five preceding years (1923-1927).

TABLE OF FOREIGN DISTRIBUTION

Number of Books	113th Year	112th Year	111th Year	110th Year	109th Year	108th Year
Printed abroad—						
Bibles.....	29,558	15,648	44,812	39,388	48,913	51,974
Testaments.....	147,675	321,589	282,978	180,128	156,633	161,235
Portions.....	6,546,415	3,418,103	4,888,544	5,223,790	3,391,332	2,815,227
Total.....	6,723,648	3,755,340	5,216,334	5,443,306	3,596,878	3,028,436
Purchased abroad—						
Bibles.....	18,844	12,609	18,901	11,328	9,620	33,361
Testaments.....	33,135	21,243	35,547	12,348	23,626	24,750
Portions.....	155,640	105,238	100,814	65,025	94,348	138,856
Total.....	207,619	139,090	155,262	88,701	127,594	196,967
Issued abroad—						
Bibles.....	54,297	31,808	70,568	72,938	84,136	103,740
Testaments.....	254,462	373,602	235,752	230,456	199,056	173,789
Portions.....	6,175,887	3,874,136	5,248,338	5,264,481	3,461,414	2,967,561
Total.....	6,484,626	4,279,546	5,554,658	5,567,875	3,744,606	3,245,090
Sent abroad.....	648,575	720,334	622,367	692,760	311,470	934,369
Foreign circulation.	6,915,892	4,989,314	5,836,472	5,535,768	4,056,076	4,179,459
Value of books sent abroad	\$62,014.33	\$72,592.33	\$59,827.26	\$67,075.50	\$52,652.85	\$62,834.57
Funds sent to other lands	\$238,579.60	\$239,571.83	\$232,819.05	\$270,875.42	\$236,083.47	\$231,985.74
Receipts from other lands	\$201,169.59	\$189,406.34	\$196,388.62	\$175,583.14	\$159,975.97	\$160,951.40

CONCLUSION

Our readers are invited now to turn to the reports received from the active workers on the fields—the Home and Foreign Agency Secretaries, and the Correspondents in lands where the Society works, but has no Agencies.

Further details on Auxiliaries, Versions, the Society's Library, and the Treasurer's Report with its appropriate tables, and a few general matters as detailed in the Table of Contents, form the concluding portion of this one hundred and thirteenth report of the American Bible Society.

HOME AGENCIES AND THE MAP



THE Home Agencies have been constituted, by a geographical division of the United States, for the more efficient and regular prosecution of the work of the Bible Society. This method of carrying on the work in the United States has been followed during the past quarter of a century.

The Agency for work among the Colored People covers the United States; but the nine other Agencies occupy the territories defined on the accompanying map and are named: Eastern, Atlantic, National Capital, South Atlantic, Central, Northwestern, Southwestern, Western, and Pacific Agencies. The reports of these Agencies will be found in the above order.

For record and reference, the list of the Agencies with the dates of their establishment is inserted here, together with the names of the Secretaries, and dates of their appointment:

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Established</i>	<i>Agency Secretary</i>	<i>Appointed</i>
Colored People	1901, Rev. J. P. Wragg, D.D., Emeritus . . .	Gen. Sec. E. M. North, Ph.D., in charge. . .	1901-1929 1929
Eastern	1908, Rev. L. B. Chamberlain, D.D., Rec. Sec. in charge		1929
Atlantic	1910, Rev. Frank P. Parkin, D.D., Philadelphia, Pa. .		1917
National Capital	1925, Rev. James H. Hyatt, D.D., Washington, D.C.		1925
South Atlantic	1907, Rev. M. B. Porter, Richmond, Va.		1907
Central	1909, Rev. Frank Marston, D.D., Cincinnati, O. . .		1917
Northwestern	1906, Rev. J. L. McLaughlin, D.D., Chicago, Ill. . .		1925
Southwestern	1907, Rev. J. J. Morgan, Dallas, Tex.		1910
Western	1907, Rev. Arthur F. Ragatz, D.D., Denver, Colo. .		1913
Pacific	1907, Rev. A. Wesley Mell, San Francisco, Cal. . .		1908

HOME AGENCY SECRETARIES' CONFERENCE

The Home Agency Secretaries' Conference usually held each year was not held in 1928. The previous conference having been held in the fall of 1927, it was decided to postpone the next conference until the spring of 1929.



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**UNITED STATES
AND THE
HOME AGENCIES
OF THE
AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY**

SCALE OF STATUTE MILES.
0 50 100 200 300 400
80 MILES TO THE INCH

Agency among the Colored People has its
quarters in New York.
The cities of the Secretaries are underscored

THE SOCIETY'S WORK IN THE UNITED STATES

AGENCY AMONG THE COLORED PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

The Agency was established in 1901, and aims to reach the colored people wherever principally resident in the United States. The Rev. J. P. Wragg, D.D., is Agency Secretary Emeritus. General Secretary Eric M. North, Ph.D., in charge, Bible House, Astor Place, New York.

The circulation in 1928 amounted to 179,004 volumes; 10,986 being Bibles, 29,011 Testaments, and 139,007 portions. The total circulation during the twenty-seven years of the Agency has been 1,677,994 volumes of Scripture. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 15 colporteurs, 24 correspondents, and 4 volunteers.



UNIQUE in several respects is this report, the last to be presented by one who was the first to become an Agency Secretary. It is the last of twenty-eight prepared by Dr. Wragg, who not only retires with high honor for what he is personally and what he has done officially, but also leaves no successor. For the work has grown, and the field has been enlarged, so that in future the Agency is to be handled in four Divisions, each with a Division Secretary, who will work directly under the supervision of the New York headquarters. This report, therefore, ends a distinct period for the Agency. But, although the field and the process are being altered, the purpose and spirit of the Agency will be perpetuated. None can read the pages which follow and have any question.

The work of this Agency is carried on by the Agency Secretary, and his loyal sub-Agency Secretaries and their workers. The field covered is the United States.

While they have been able to work here and there, they have only touched the hem of their fields; the larger part has yet to be cultivated. The people need the Word of God. They should have it; and the

people who have the means should not hold back one dollar, but turn it over to the Bible Society to help to spread His Word.

One of the great problems in all four of the areas is to be able to get the right kind of workers. They need big-hearted Christian people, who will live the Word as well as carry it. The foundation of this Agency was laid on this principle: not what we could get out of circulating the Word, but what we could put in it to help make the world better.

Cities, towns, villages, rural sections, have been worked as far as possible. Many times on foot for miles, in wagons, cars, and on trains to reach the people. The men have climbed mountains and hills, on foot, to reach those who seemed to be in another part of the world and were sadly in need of the Scriptures, and glad to be able to secure it.

Hospitals have been visited, and His Word has been distributed. The slums, jails, and other places for the unfortunates have been worked from time to time.

Coal mines, ore mines, and other public works have had close attention during the year. Many of their workers have been helped by the prayers and spiritual talks from the colporteurs. Cards have been taken from pockets, also flasks of whiskey, and one of the little portions placed there. Some of the money spent in these sins has been put in Bibles for the families of the miners. The colporteur, after breaking in, is a welcome guest each time. A large number of these men are from good homes and are living good lives; while with others drink and fast living have caused them to lead a wild life; and nothing but God's Word can and will save them.

The facts from the four sub-Agency Secretaries will give you the picture from the several fields, which we would not be able to draw otherwise.

Our hands have been busy at this office trying to help those who could not be reached from the four other points. We have had visits from the poor, lame, deformed, the near-sighted, feeble-minded, and the blind. How often we have closed our eyes and thanked Him for making it possible, through the American Bible Society, to help each of these to get some part of the Scriptures most suited to their several needs! Have I seen tears of thanks on the cheeks of those who were helped? Yes; showers of grateful tears and thanks for a chance to read His Word.

A faithful woman—not large in stature, but with a big heart full of love for humanity—has visited our office time after time to get Scriptures to send to those who, she feels, would not have it otherwise. We have made her donations; but often she will say, "Please, do not make this one. I had three or four good days' work this week, and I must give God his part; and this will leave you that number to send to some others who are just as needy." Out of these daily earnings in housework she has sent directly many books; she is also one of our Annual Members. She is faithful in every good work of her church.

A Big Demand

There is a big demand for the Book. The people are reading it, and having it read to them. Our job is to have them see the need of the Scripture, to study it, and live by it. We asked one of our friends, who loves the Bible, to read during the two months Mark and I and II Corinthians, from our little portions. He failed to answer this. A few days ago, he said, "I am reading the two Gospels with you." How glad I was to have him do this. Many others we have tried to encourage in the same way. They have Bibles, they read them; but we feel that, to have the families of all who may, read the same portions at the same time, new interest will be shown in every way. These small bites will make us anxious for larger ones. One church had a large number of portions sent to one of the reformatories. How we wish others would catch that spirit.

A pathetic story was told us by a friend of a little schoolgirl, who needed a Bible for her school work. In this home there was only an old large family Bible, which was owned by her father's family. This she desired to carry; but her father, learning of it, demurred, saying emphatically, "No; you kids can not tear up that Bible." When the story was told to us, and the condition of that family, we sent one of our cloth-bound Bibles to her, which she was very proud to carry as her very own.

They come one by one, two by two, and often three by three, asking for the Scriptures. Some of those who come begging could well afford to pay, and thus help us to reach hundreds of the needy, if they were so disposed. We are always trying to convince some one that the Society is not, as is often thought, a rich concern; but must depend upon the people who love the Word, to give to keep it going. "If it should stop," this sad world would certainly be in darkness.

Circulation in 1928

The circulation of the Agency for the year 1928 was as follows: Bibles, 10, 98; Testaments, 29,011; and portions, 139,007; totaling 179,004 volumes—an increase over 1927 of 13,767.

This is the largest circulation ever made in the history of the Agency. The work and influence of the American Bible Society expand rapidly as the years come and go, and of this expansion we can say, "All of it we have seen, and a part of it we have been." When we say "all of it we have seen," it is because we have been at it for these twenty-seven years, not even feeling that we could leave the work long enough for a vacation.

This Agency has a unique history. It began in 1901 under the direction of the beloved and lamented General Secretary Dr. W. I. Haven, who, with a prayer and God bless you, sent us forth to work out his plans under the title of Special Agency Secretary among the Colored people of the South. We had a very limited amount in which

to lay the foundation for the Agency; but as best we could we worked out those plans and the firm foundation was laid; and as a result there are now ten Home Agencies. Truly God has multiplied the mustard seed, and it becomes a large source of supply for the circulation of the Scriptures.

Time alone can tell of the great achievements that are to come through the constant and watchful care of the administrators of the American Bible Society. God's blessings be upon them and the work. May their appeals be ever heard by all friends and lovers of the Christ and the spreading of his Word.

ATLANTA DIVISION

South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi

Rev. H. W. B. Wilson, D.D., Division Secretary, 56 Gammon Avenue, S. E., Atlanta, Ga.

The narrative story for 1928 has been made hard to relate, because we were in declining health the greater part of the year. Many things of interest touching our work escaped our notice because of this condition.

Aims and Problems

We have aimed to reach the largest possible number of people and institutions at the smallest possible cost. We have tried to lay upon the minds of our hearers the indispensability of the Bible in their homes and in all the homes the whole round world. We have endeavored to present the claims of the Bible and the Society in such a way as to quicken the spiritual lives of the people and to make friends for the work. We have labored to increase interest in the reading of the Scriptures; to make our constituency acquainted with every objective of the Society as a missionary institution engaged in the circulation of the Scriptures at home and abroad; and to reach every nook and corner of our field in search for those who need the Bible.

Many problems are encountered in this work. We have been again faced with the problem of getting helpers who can do the work required in Bible circulation. The requisite patience, tact, spirituality, and willingness to sacrifice are found in but few of those who apply for Bible colportage.

Another problem is the enlisting of sufficient cooperation on the part of local church leaders in the communities where we have gone to work. In many places they look upon the colporteur as an ordinary book agent, who is selling Bibles for a livelihood.

We are sometimes met with the idea that the American Bible Society is a rich institution, that does not need the help and cooperation of the poor people. The fact that the American Bible Society is a missionary institution, doing purely missionary work, has not been grasped yet by many good people who could, but do not, help carry for-

ward this work. This, I feel, is due to the way the Society helped our people in the earlier years. The burden of the efforts of the staff has been to have the people understand that ours is an interchurch missionary movement to reach all the people with the Word of God, and that all Christians are equally responsible for the task.

Results Obtained

We have sent our colporteurs forth to the big cities, farms, mills, camps, mines, manufacturing centers, prisons, asylums, hospitals, and other such places, in quest of our people. Churches, schools, young people's organizations, railroad stations, and such places have felt the touch of our men. Wherever we could come in contact with any who needed the Scriptures, we have tried to find them.

Our men have visited 7,708 homes and have distributed 3,126 Bibles, 4,379 Testaments, and 38,507 portions. The total number of volumes put out during the year was 46,012. These Scriptures have been placed in homes representing every walk and condition of life. We have sent our men forth with instructions to visit the homes of all our people, and especially the poor.

Bible Sunday and the Reading Campaign

Bible Sunday was vigorously pushed, and more literature was given out than in other years. Most of this was handed out as we made our visits to the annual conferences. The value of the observance of this day as an educational advantage for the people was stressed. Many of the pastors of the larger churches gladly accepted the opportunity and pledged the observance of the day.

In order to obtain greater results in the Bible Reading Campaign, we sent out letters to the high schools and colleges of our territory, asking them to join in helping make the effort a success. Attention was called to the need of keeping the young people in touch with the Bible. As a result of this we had orders from some of the schools, and others promised to read a chapter a day of the books selected for the campaign.

Special Missionary Tasks

Special missionary tasks that have claimed our attention this year have been the giving of Bibles for the homes that were being reestablished in the Mississippi Delta, and the supplying of Bibles for the refugees who were affected by the great tropical storm that swept over the lower part of the state of Florida.

We have sent several hundred nice Bibles with family records to these homes, and we are now sending out Bibles, Testaments, and portions to the people who lost their Bibles in the storm-stricken district in Florida.

Conclusion

We have sought new ways to do our work among the people. To encourage the young, we have offered prizes for essays and composi-

tions on Bible characters. Grants and half-grants have been offered to Sunday schools that would canvass their communities in search of any who needed Bibles.

We are thankful that health is being restored. Our colporteurs have done the best they could. Bishops and churchmen have been friendly disposed toward our work. My superiors have been patient, and God has been exceedingly good. For all of this we thank our Heavenly Father.

CHARLOTTE DIVISION

New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee

Rev. D. H. Sansom, Jr., Division Secretary, 403 East Third Street, Charlotte, N. C.

Following the path of the New Year, we have moved patiently and persistently onward in the work our hands found to do, and now we have come to the time and place when and where the curtain falls which tells that another year has passed.

In the accomplishing of our bit in Bible distribution for the year, we are not unmindful of the faithful cooperation of wife, colporteurs and correspondents in the one task of "sowing the seed."

Travel was more extensive than during any former year. It was found necessary to spend nights on the train, in order to touch the various denominational meetings, during the rush fall season.

It has not been an easy matter to find and keep active and thorough-going workers; hence we have been constantly on the lookout.

Numerous have been the calls from individuals and missions during the year. No worthy applicant has been allowed to go away unaided.

Hundreds of persons have been reached in the cities through the Travelers' Aid workers at railroad stations; while those in the remote rural sections have been reached through those having charge of day schools.

More than ordinary attention has been given to the schools in the centers. The response has been encouraging and profitable. In one particular case, the school took one thousand copies of the Book of Proverbs, with a promise to take a thousand more of some other book of the Bible in the New Year.

Many of the ministers are finding that our brightly covered portions make appreciable Christmas remembrances to members of their flocks.

At a certain meeting during the year there came to the Bible booth a young woman to ask the loan of a Bible. No particular questions were asked the young woman. On the morrow the Bible was returned in perfect condition. At this time the question was asked as to why the book had been borrowed, and why not returned sooner. She replied, "From a child I was brought up in a Christian home, and was taught to love and respect the Bible and its teachings. I have been fighting temptations, and I felt that, if I had with me a Bible, it would

strengthen me to withstand." She thanked us for the Bible, and, turning away, said, "I won."

CLEVELAND DIVISION

Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, North and South Dakotas, Washington, Oregon, and Montana

Rev. S. A. Lucas, Division Secretary, 2316 East 55th Street, Cleveland, Ohio.

With the closing of the year 1928 we have written a history of Bible distribution and circulation which ought to thrill and fill us with a zeal for greater activities during the year 1929. Each year finds our workers taking on new interest in seeking out places where they can render greater service. Hence they are covering a vast territory. In the mining section of Pennsylvania and Ohio, the colporteurs have found a wide field for labor in supplying many who are destitute of the Scriptures. During the winter months, travel is very hard, but, with the spirit and aim of the work at heart, they stick to their posts. Wayman Barber, a worker in this section, reports that it is a problem to reach the homes, but often he is able to secure a ride from a passer-by to the next station.

A worker in another part of the field relates the following story:

"A Bible for a Bed"

On entering a small town quite late, he sought lodging at a nearby dwelling. The response to his knock brought the man of the house, who, after making inquiry, very abruptly said to him, "No." Turning from the door to go, he hesitated and said: "Sir, I'll give you a Bible for a bed." This statement seemed to touch the man, and he invited him in. He accepted the Bible and, on the following morning, gave the worker breakfast, thanked him for the book, and told him that, before he retired for the night, he read a portion of the tenth chapter of St. Matthew and was convinced that he had performed a good deed.

Bible distributors are always welcomed in the summer vacation camps and Bible study conferences—which increases the sales and circulation. Many more institutions and auxiliary societies of the churches are fostering Bible reading, and this is a very good sign of progress. On a whole, Bible reading among the colored people of this section has increased, and we hope for a brighter and better future.

We are adopting the plan of interesting the people by mail and we meet with some success. The personal touch method is a worthwhile asset to the work. People who have never known of the American Bible Society are joining the ranks and helping the cause. Distribution in the prisons and hospitals has increased this year through the efforts of personal workers.

We find that, by keeping alert to all announcements of religious gatherings in your area, it increases the circulation, and you will always find someone willing to accept the gospel.

It was my pleasure to be in a rousing meeting, and they were singing the song "The Bible Stands":

The Bible stands like a rock undaunted
'Mid the raging storms of time;
Its pages burn with the truth eternal,
And they glow with a light sublime.

CHORUS

The Bible stands tho' the hills may tumble;
It will firmly stand when the earth shall crumble.
I will plant my feet on its firm foundation;
For the Bible stands.

I asked permission to say a word on the Bible. This was granted; and at the close of the meeting we were blessed with the sale of many Testaments and portions. In our house-to-house canvass we found many homes without the Word, which we were able to supply by gift and sale.

More churches responded to the Bible Sunday call this year than heretofore. We have received many comments on the posters displaying the penny portions and the responsive reading—"Sowing the Seed."

There is a great demand for a cheap Bible, small in size, with legible type; also, many calls for the one-cent Book of Psalms. Proverbs, too, are filling a great need to men who wish a safe guide to life.

The display of the American Bible Society during the session of the General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, which took place in Chicago, May, 1928, met with much applause and approval. General Secretary Eric M. North was introduced to the Conference.

Distribution of the Cleveland Sub-Agency for 1928

Bibles	2,471	Miles traveled	14,713
Testaments	4,248	Families visited	6,389
Portions	29,797	Number of families without Bible	170
Total volumes distributed.....	36,516	Number of families supplied....	103
Days spent	1,208		

This is our banner year in distribution, with a large increase over last year.

HOUSTON DIVISION

Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, and California

Rev. M. L. Vaughters, Division Secretary, 1013-15 Heiner Street, Houston, Texas.

The year 1928 was marked with no extraordinary incident in the Houston sub-Agency in connection with Bible circulation, and yet each daily task was performed with intense interest. While we were gratified over the fact that our circulation was several thousand in excess of what it was the previous year, our greatest thrill came from the manner in which the people are expressing their increasing appreciation of the real value of the Holy Scriptures. A man, living not very far from our depository, had been sick for a long while. His

wife decided to carry him off to some health resort, and, as we desired to have another little talk with him before leaving, we hastened around to his house. After talking to him about how he might regain his health, we spoke to him of his relation to God, closing by presenting him a Testament and Psalms written in large type, and in which were marked several passages capable of leading him to God. He expressed a greater delight over this, than all we had tried to do for him while he had been sick.

A man came to the depository for some Testaments. "I am not a preacher," he stammered out, "but I can help to spread the gospel. I want a supply of your five-cent Testaments, to give to people too poor to buy them or too thoughtless of the salvation of their own souls to purchase them for themselves." I shall not soon forget the expression on his face when he looked me in the eye and said, "The Bible is the book of life, and men will have to square their lives to it. It is only a question of time when men everywhere will realize this fact."

A True Word

We were visiting a certain church getting the people in line for the Bible-reading campaign, and, among his remarks indorsing the work, the pastor said that the Bible is responsible for man's wonderful advancement in civilization; and, notwithstanding that the scientists have made many heavy assaults upon the Bible, they are now coming back to it, acknowledging its wonderful truths. A man in the audience arose and said, "The scientists can't do other than come back to the Bible; for they are seeking truth, and the Bible is the Word of Truth."

We visited a town in Texas, only a few months ago, in which a very strong sentiment in favor of the Bible being taught in connection with the children's public-school training had prevailed, and very happy arrangement had been made to that effect. A competent teacher, representing each denomination in the city with any considerable following, had been secured to teach the Bible three or four periods each week in their respective churches. The students were receiving the same credit for work done in the Bible as they were for that done in other branches of study. We are happy to have the chance to supply the schools with Bibles.

Our Workers Speak

We are here below giving space for the experiences of only a few of our workers.

Mr. A. Woodard has been working around in the city for many years. He gets his supplies directly from the depository, and takes great pleasure in visiting the neglected people. The work of Bible circulation seems to have a very keen appeal to him. He often comes in and calls for Bibles for the unfortunate people in the prisons. Sometimes he wants Bibles for some sick persons in the hospitals; again, they are for the home of the old folks. "Many of the old people

have had to leave off their Bible reading almost altogether, because their eyes are bad; but, by the use of these," he says, referring to the Gospels, Testaments, and other books printed in the extra large type, as he fills his case, "many of them can read without their glasses." Continuing to talk of his work among the people, he says, "A lady on her sick bed sent for me several times before I could make it convenient to get there. When I did get there, I found that she was a woman whom I once very well knew. She was in a very low state. After she and her husband separated, she had to fight the battles of life for herself. Finally, her health gave way, leaving her with no one to look to but the people living around in the community, who were too busy to do anything for her. She had almost dwindled away to a skeleton. When I opened the door, she recognized me, smiled, and invited me in. I sat and talked with her for a few minutes, and was informed that she was a member of a fraternal organization in a distant city, with which we afterward tried to get in touch. We had an earnest prayer with her and divided with her our little means; but she wanted a Bible. I gave her Number 53 with clear type, which made her very happy."

City Officials Interfere, But Relent

The Rev. I. Dyer pastors a small charge in north Louisiana, which requires only a part of his time. He has been giving much of his time to Bible circulation for more than two years, and has met with much success, notwithstanding the strong Catholic influence in the state. When he sought permission to do his work in a certain town, the city officials turned him down. In relating the incident, he said, "They pretended to think that it would be unfair for the men in the book business there to allow us to sell Bibles in the city at such low prices. We knew that they were Catholics, and yet we tried to explain to them that our work is evangelistic, with no purpose of making profit. But we could not get them to see that it was right for us to sell the Scriptures at cost and give them to unfortunate people unable to buy them. They still held that it would be unfair to undersell the book dealers. We ceased to argue the question and went to the pastor of the First Methodist Church, South, and laid the case before him. He took up the matter with the city authorities, giving the history and purpose of the American Bible Society, and we were allowed to go ahead with our work.

"We visited another town for the first time. The pastor of one of the churches there was the only person we knew. He placed us in one of the best homes among his people, and in a few days was out to his Sunday-school convention, leaving us a perfect stranger in the city. In the meantime we had made a nice start with our work. Many homes had been supplied with the Word, and a favorable impression was being made. Suddenly, we took desperately sick, and was in bed for many days. The people with whom we were staying cared for us

as if we had been a member of the family. People among whom we had been laboring heard that the Bible man was sick, came to our room, offered prayer, words of comfort, and supplied all our material needs, assuring us that we should not suffer in that town. We felt that the God that sent the raven to feed Elijah and cared for him in the home of the widow, was surely taking care of us while we carried his Word."

"We visited another town in a black land section of the country. When it rains there, the mud clings to your feet like steel to a magnet. It had been raining for eight or ten days. The streets in town, and all the country roads around about town, had become almost impassable for any kind of vehicle. The only ways one could travel were on horseback and on foot. A blizzard came on and found the town's supply of fuel almost exhausted. The country people could not bring in wood from the country, and before wood and coal could be brought in by railway from other places, the people suffered intensely. In the midst of all this, however, we tried to pursue our work. At times our feet were so heavy with mud that we could hardly lift them. We made a few sales of our books of the cheaper binding, and made our way to the next city."

Mrs. M. Paramore has worked around the city for several years, and claims that Bible circulation is her calling. "I get mighty tired of carrying heavy loads of books from house to house sometimes," she often says, "but this is the only way to get Bibles in the homes of the people: they will not go for them." We tell her that she should not carry such heavy loads at a time, but she says, "I do not know what the people want, and have to carry a large variety for them to select from, or else I may miss many sales."

Mr. M. Robinson is a blind man, who travels in his own automobile prepared for Bible circulation. He is one of the best workers we have. A son and two other young men accompany him on his itineraries. They all have musical instruments, which they play, and sing religious songs. In this way they gather, in the churches and on the streets, large crowds, to which they distribute many Bibles and Testaments. Mr. Robinson is greatly enthused over Bible circulation, and often says, "I had rather carry the people the bread of life, than anything that I have ever done."

Through the year we made many donations to individuals who would come in from time to time asking for a book.

Some Replies of Appreciation from Grants

Cleveland, Ohio.

"Kindly accept this as an acknowledgment of your kind interest in donating us thirteen Bibles along with the thirteen we bought. It would have done your heart good, Bro. Lucas, to have seen those children, each with a Bible, searching chapter and verse. Please consider us as one of your supporters, which we have to certify by our contribution in the near future."

Cleveland, Ohio.

"This note comes to acknowledge and thank you for the one hundred and fifty Bibles which you and your Society have given to the Philles Wheatley Association. We certainly appreciate this gift, and I am sure it is going to add strength and dignity to our work."

Oakdale, Pa.

"The Bibles received, and the Sunday school and A.C.E. are delighted with them. We had a rally in the afternoon yesterday and raised a part of the money, so I am sending it to you today."

Toledo, Ohio.

"Yours received notifying me of the proposition concerning your supplying us with Bibles. I am enclosing an offering of \$3. Only wish we were able to make the amount larger. Your plans for assisting is very good. If those desiring help could not first put forth efforts to help themselves, I feel that they are not worthy of help from some other source."

Chicago, Ill.

"We praise God and thank you for the Bibles which we received, and I am sure they will do a great deal of good. Our children are all colored, but four or five, and most of them come from homes where sin reigns. The dear children are convicted of sins, and many are coming the Bible way and living free from sin. We ask your prayers for leading and guidance of the Holy Spirit in this work. You may expect an offering after next month. We wish to urge them to give for this cause."

EASTERN AGENCY

The Eastern Agency was established in June, 1908. Its field embraces New York and the neighboring New England states so far as they are not otherwise cared for by state and county Bible Societies. Correspondence may be addressed to the Rev. L. B. Chamberlain, D.D., Bible House, Astor Place, New York.

The circulation for the year ending December 31, 1928, was 17,779 Bibles, 19,216 Testaments, and 233,695 portions, or a total of 270,690 volumes. This makes the total number put into circulation since the establishment of the Agency 2,509,723 volumes. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 6 colporteurs, 11 correspondents, and 31 volunteers.



ALONE among the ten Home Agencies, this Agency has not the time and thought of an Agency Secretary. Covering the great and important state of New York with its big population and problems, and such contiguous regions as have no specific care, it might well occupy a man's whole time. But, being so convenient to the New York headquarters, and there being such urgent calls from all over the home and foreign fields of the Society for funds to supply Scriptures, the supervision of the work and workers of the Agency for some years has fallen to one of the officers at the Bible House in conjunction with his other duties. The prospect for 1928 was bright as the year opened. Dr. Eric M. North, who had been added to the force a few months before as Associate Secretary, was in charge, and there was expectation that he would have time to push the work actively. The sudden death of General Secretary Haven, however, brought the bulk of his large duties upon Dr. North and changed conditions. The staff and coworkers of the Agency, therefore, have been depended on very largely. With what good results the report reveals.

For 1928, the Eastern Agency has to report a year of continued and quiet work, with no very radical changes. The circulation for the year shows a slight decrease in Bibles, Testaments, and portions, the total for the year being 270,690 volumes as compared with 282,677 for 1927. The figure for 1928, however, is considerably higher than that for 1926.

Parents' Exposition

A new feature of the work was the exhibit at the Parents' Exposition in New York City, at the end of April. The Eastern Agency, with help from the Home Office, established a booth there, recognizing the fundamental importance of the home in creating an interest in, and demand for, the Bible. This exposition, the first of its kind ever held in New York City, was under the auspices of the United Parents' Association, and despite the four days of very inclement weather, was very successful, being visited by thousands of people in all walks of life.

The booth of the American Bible Society was attractively decorated and arranged, and, in addition to the Bibles shown in many languages, the exhibit displayed Scriptures in the various systems for the Blind.

Visitors at the booth showed very great interest in the exhibit, and asked many questions concerning the Society's activities. Most of them were surprised to learn that the Scriptures were translated and published in approximately 860 languages and dialects, and to find how wide were the ramifications of the organization.

Some 8,000 portions of the Bible were distributed and were eagerly accepted, especially by the children. Specific information was requested as to the publication of the Bible in the following languages: Arabic, Chinese, Czechoslovakian, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Latin, Norwegian, Polish, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Swedish, Welsh, Yiddish.

It was the consensus of opinion that the exhibition answered to a long-felt want, and that its influence will be large. From the Society's point of view, there can be no question that the expenditure of money and time in maintaining a booth and distributing the Bible portions will be amply repaid.

County Fairs

The usual systematic attention to the state and county fairs in New York State was given. Mr. Harold Jones, of Albany, who has cooperated very effectively with us, established booths for us and attended the fairs at Syracuse, Altamont, Morris, Schaghticote, Ballston Spa, Cobleskill, Cambridge, and Cambridge Falls. In a number of cases the management granted us free space. Mr. D. A. Silliman, with the cooperation of the Dutchess County Bible Society, took care of our work at the fair at Rhinebeck; while Mr. L. Dow Covington, with some assistance from the office, supervised our booths at the county fairs in Mineola and Riverhead, Long Island.

In and about Rochester

Our experienced colporteur in Rochester, the Rev. D. H. Findlay, continues his very active and effective work. From this center he touches not only the city, but also many of the surrounding communities. The Federation of Churches has expressed itself in hearty appreciation of his service and ministry. Among his experiences of fine service he has reported the following:

"While on the car, one day, I sold one of our best Bibles to the

conductor for a present to his mother. The other day, while I was coming home from a hard yet precious day, who should grasp me by the arm but my friend, the conductor, in his civilian clothes. Of course, I did not recognize him at first. Then he said to me, 'Mr. Findlay, do you remember the Bible you gave me for a present to my mother? Well,' he said, with quivering lips, 'I have just laid her away. The day before she died, she called me to her bedside, and, taking my hand, she said to me, "George you have been a good son to me; but the day you brought that beautiful Bible home to me was the crowning day of all that you had done before. I am going to leave you soon now; but, before I go, I want you to take with you my Bible, and to promise me to read it prayerfully is my last request from you." Do you know, Mr. Findlay, there is not enough money in all the banks of the city to buy that Bible from me today. God knows she was a good mother to me.'

"Mr. Willis Reid is not only a Presbyterian elder and one of Rochester's well-known business men and Christian workers, but is one who, years ago, got a vision of what the American Bible Society was trying to do for the whole world in the spreading of the gospel. For the past years he himself has been scattering the Word of God all over the country. This year 1928 has been his banner year, when I have supplied him with two thousand five hundred Gospels of St. John at his own expense. Wherever his business calls him, he never forgets the King's business. He has always a supply of Gospels with him for free distribution on the street car, on the train, and in the hotels where he is to stay during his business trip; he has always on hand the Bread of Life. I remember last spring he and his dear wife went down to South Carolina for a visit. As soon as he got there, he saw the need for the Gospel there also, and wrote to me to send him 500 Gospels at once, as he was lonely without them. I ordered them from headquarters in New York, and they were sent immediately to him. Oh, that we had more men and women of the church today who had this vision, who could see the real need for the Word of God as the colporteur sees it every day.

"In one of our leading bakery stores in Rochester, while the people call for their loaves of bread and buns for daily use, they are accustomed now to have handed to them by the master baker himself a little Gospel of St. John. It was one of these little Gospels given to the baker himself over a year ago that brought him to Christ. 'Now,' he says, 'I cannot preach or teach yet, Brother Findlay, but I can work for Him who has done so much for me.' He has given away over six hundred gospels in this way during the past year, and who knows what the increase shall be? Only my Father knows."

Mr. Findlay also sends this quotation from a letter from one to whom he had loaned a Bible:

"In regard to the one you loaned me, I must say that, without a question, God put it into your mind to hand me that book. There came to my notice a young lady, who is my niece by marriage, whose

training along religious lines has been sadly neglected, but whose heart yearned for the truth, though she did not know just what she longed for. It seems she was afflicted with some slight touch of the white plague, and the doctor said she must return to Los Angeles. The time came for her departure, and as we were assembled at dinner together, I thought of the Bible, and, to the surprise of all present, I got the Book and presented it to her. If I should live a hundred years more, I can never forget the look which lighted up her young face as she came to realize that it was the precious Word of God which she had received. It was the FIRST Bible she had ever owned. Back in the city of Los Angeles, she now has the privilege of reading the Book. Alone, with no one to comfort her or talk to her, except the light-hearted souls who surround her, she has recourse to the Word as never before. It surely was worth while, and if you had not insisted on my taking it along, she would still be longing for that something of which she knew naught. It is just another case of God using you to further the extent of his kingdom."

Among Our Correspondents

As in past years, the Rev. Paul Bender again carried on the work at Coney Island Saturdays and holidays during June, July and August. He is very enthusiastic about this phase of the work of spreading the Word. He also does excellent work in Brooklyn, as there is seldom a week that he does not come in and order many Scriptures.

Mr. R. C. Stokes, who has been distributing, and canvassing for, Scriptures for many years, is one of our most earnest and zealous voluntary workers. During the past year he gave up his work with the gas company during the summer months, in order to carry out an evangelistic campaign, together with the work of distributing the Scriptures. He traveled in the country districts, and supplied families who were in great need of the Word of God, and spiritually gave them much assistance. In the fall he resumed his duties with the gas company, at the same time spending all his spare time in his work for the Lord.

The Rev. A. B. Carrero effectively carried on his work among the Spanish residents in Brooklyn. Mr. Robert Montero also has worked among the Spanish people in Brooklyn. He is now on the West Coast, but will resume his activities on his return.

We have had much satisfaction in the devotion and enthusiasm of a new friend, Mr. E. L. Relf, of Schenectady, a member of the Presbyterian Church. His appointment as a correspondent gives us, for the first time in many years, an active and effective representative in this section of New York State.

Miss Ruth N. Clark has been one of our most enthusiastic workers, and it was with much regret that we lost her services on account of ill health, when she returned to her home in the Adirondacks. She

canvassed Staten Island very thoroughly, and the results were wonderful. She reported that the reception she received from the various homes she visited was very encouraging. During a part of last year she also worked in Brooklyn, where she found a great need among the foreigners.

For a time the Rev. John Chernavin, a Russian priest, worked for us among the Russian working classes. He says: "Russian people were surprised to see me, a priest, selling Bibles. For them it is an unusual event. The Russian people know and read very little of the Great Book. There were many who would argue. Following are some of the objections: the Bible is not inspired by God; the teachings of Jesus are mythical; it is impossible to live according to Christ's teachings; we should observe Saturday instead of Sunday; there should be no cross on the cover of Bibles; it is not blessed by the Holy Synod of Russia."

Mr. R. A. West is still giving all his energies to the welfare of seafaring men. He has charge of the Immanuel Mission to Seamen in Brooklyn. He is especially delighted when he is able to obtain the Scriptures in unusual languages, which are so precious to men who come to this country not knowing the language.

Voluntary Workers

We have many voluntary workers, who give their time without remuneration, and cheerfully go about the work of distribution; and we are encouraged at the increase of those who yearn to do their share of this great work. These volunteers are from all walks of life, and it is gratifying to note that many of prominence and social standing will carry portions in their pockets, in order to pass the gospel to those with whom they come in contact during their travels.

Donations

The Eastern Agency has supplied Dannemora, Auburn, and other prisons throughout the state, with Scriptures, as well as to many volunteer workers who are actively engaged in prison work.

We also supplied many Bibles for the ships' libraries. Captain Benn, of the Mission Yacht Association, Brooklyn, writes: "We place a copy of one of these Bibles in a ship's library, where all the members of the crew may have access to it; usually on the cargo ships carrying from fifty to one hundred men. We are exceedingly grateful for this contribution."

The varied character of the constituency still remains a major element in the problems of the Agency. The reports show 59 languages in which the Scriptures were circulated.

The two outstanding problems in the work of the Agency are, first, to find out how better to reach the many small communities in various parts of the state that are away from the beaten track; and, on the other hand, how to reach effectively the great multitudes that throng the great cities of the state. Some experiments are in preparation for testing out here, which, if they prove successful, may turn out to be of value in others of the Society's Home Agencies.

ATLANTIC AGENCY

The Atlantic Agency was established in 1910, and includes the states of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. Frank P. Parkin, D.D., Bible House, 701 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

The circulation for the year 1928 was 28,991 Bibles, 36,758 Testaments, and 370,818 portions, making a total of 436,567 volumes. The total circulation since the establishment of the Agency is now 4,199,126 volumes. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 9 colporteurs, 29 correspondents, and 15 volunteers.



THE two populous and important states of Pennsylvania and New Jersey are a challenge to any serious undertaking. Neither can be entirely covered, nor can all phases of the work be fully pressed in either, each year, in the work of Bible distribution. As the report here again indicates, different fields and different features are the objects of attention and effort as year follows year. And yet there is the valuable element of continuity. It is retained partially by the maintenance of well-established centers of work, and partially by the presence of long-time, faithful workers.

The year 1928 has been one of varied experiences. There have been periodical changes in the character of our circulation. The two states which are included in the Atlantic Agency have undergone many industrial changes. On the surface there seems to have been great financial prosperity in many lines of work; but, on the other hand, there has been a lack of prosperity in some of the leading industries of the state, which has resulted in a lack of employment and a corresponding depression in securing the sales of Bibles especially.

Popularity of the Penny Portions

Our combined circulation for 1928 amounted to 28,991 Bibles, 36,758 Testaments, and 370,818 individual portions of the Bible, making a total circulation of 436,567 volumes. While there has been a decrease in our circulation of Bibles and Testaments, there has been an encouraging increase in the sale and distribution of the penny portions. The popularity of these penny portions with the illuminated covers has been very marked, and we have at times found it very difficult to dispose of our large stock of the plain covered ones. We have been using every effort, through our colporteurs and our agencies at Pittsburgh and Scranton, to call the attention of the pastors and

Sunday-school superintendents to the importance of putting the entire Bible, wherever possible, in the church pews, and also in the hands of the children of the Sunday schools. This is not an easy task, as any one who attempts it will soon discover. However, we have had some remarkable instances of churches of various grades which have laid this down as their ideal, and have been steadily realizing it. The growing custom of presenting Bibles to the children at Christmas and Easter or on Children's Day is one of the encouraging signs of the times. One of the largest Methodist Episcopal churches in the city of Philadelphia has placed copies of one of our very attractive Bibles in every pew, and many commendations of this form of enterprise have been received. Over 270 copies of our No. 56 English Bible were purchased by this church and placed in special Bible racks.

Varied Languages

While the immigration laws have had a very marked effect upon the number of foreigners coming to this country, there has been a steady increase of interest in the Americanization of the millions who are within our borders, and voluntary workers among many of these nationalities have been zealously at work. The recently published diglot editions have met with great favor in certain sections of our Agency, and we are hoping that this interest will steadily increase. During the year 1928, we have circulated the Scriptures in 54 different languages. Following is the list:

Albanian	Dutch	Icelandic	Ruthenian
Arabic	English	Irish	Sanskrit
Armenian, Ancient	Esperanto	Italian	Servian
Armenian, Modern	Estonian	Japanese	Slavic
Armeno-Turkish	Finnish, Gothic	Korean	Slovak
Bohemian	Finnish, Roman	Latin	Slovenian
Braid Scot	Flemish	Lettish	Spanish
Bulgarian	French	Lithuanian	Swedish
Chinese:	Gaelic	Norwegian, Roman	Syriac, Modern
Mandarin	German	Polish	Temne
Canton Colloquial	Greek, Ancient	Portuguese	Turkish
Croatian	Greek, Modern	Quechua	Welsh
Czechoslovakian	Hebrew	Roumanian	Yiddish
Danish	Hungarian	Russian	

Methods of Distribution

From time to time we have had occasion to vary our methods of distribution. The use of colporteurs is one that requires great patience and wisdom on the part of all concerned. In many respects, it is a most valuable and almost indispensable method. The lack of funds, however, makes it impossible to carry out this method as every Agency would like to do. We have sought to encourage voluntary distribution, and there have been many very notable cases of consecration and self-sacrifice on the part of some of these voluntary workers. The work of Bible distribution at the Mifflin County Fair, in Pennsylvania, during this last year, has been unusually successful. The various women's organizations of Lewistown united in this work, and they reached about 30,000 people with the penny Gospels which were donated to them for that purpose.

The wonderful work of a New York business man, who for nearly thirty years has conducted a Bible Class in the Essex County penitentiary at Caldwell, New Jersey, deserves special mention. The distribution of the Bibles among these men has been a labor of love on the part of this devoted worker, Mr. W. A. Schneider.

We are glad again to call attention to the unusual record of a certain Baptist layman, a former parishioner of the late Rev. Dr. Russell H. Conwell, of national fame. With an enthusiasm and a persistence that cannot but win the admiration of all, Mr. William C. Guth has personally sold and distributed nearly 25,000 copies of the Book of Proverbs. One worker among the sailors along the shores of the Delaware River has written expressing her great appreciation of a large gift of this Book of Proverbs, which she has used most efficiently among the sailors who crowd at times our Philadelphia wharves.

In this connection, as illustrating the increasing amount of voluntary work, the seamen's institute of this city, which has a record second only to that of New York City, has utilized the various editions of the penny portions, not only at Christmas time, but also throughout the year. Did space permit, many more specific instances could be given illustrating the success of this individual labor in our penitentiaries, houses of correction, etc., but especially among the children of our public schools.

Work among the Public Schools

For the fourth year in succession, we are glad to include in our annual story a very brief reference to a system of Bible distribution in connection with public schools of the state of Pennsylvania. The Rev. James S. McCreary, by his tactfulness, has continued his novel methods of offering Bible prizes and distributing large numbers of Bibles, Testaments, and individual portions of the Bible. This is done entirely on his own initiative, and the American Bible Society assumes no responsibility for this work. He purchases the Scriptures from us and has donated many copies to those who are unable to pay for them.

The Rev. Joseph B. Thomas, a Baptist clergyman and one of our regular colporteurs, has been especially successful in arousing an interest among the children of the public schools and Sunday schools in many of the counties of the state of Pennsylvania. The Bible-reading campaign which took place during the months of January and February was greatly stimulated by his labors in the various communities which he visited.

Words of Appreciation

Among the many scores of letters of appreciation received for donations of the Scriptures to various churches, institutions, and individuals, are the following condensed reports:

"The Bibles came today, and I wish to assure you of my apprecia-

tion of your gifts. The Bibles will be placed in the hands of patients at Essex Mountain Sanatorium, and I know they will be most thankful." Another worker among the Spanish-speaking people writes: "I hereby wish to thank you for the New Testaments which I received from you for the Spanish-speaking people of our Homestead Spanish Mission. I am sure that your gift will be of great spiritual value in the work of the mission here." A worker in New Jersey sends this letter of thanks: "I do want to thank you for the French-English Testaments. I believe they will do a splendid service of faith and for faith. All four have gone on their important mission. One went, with the given consent of a Roman Catholic mother, to her young daughter, who probably never before guessed such a book of great and precious promises existed. I am certain the young girls on whom the Testaments were bestowed will read their French where English might be thrust aside. Those Psalms you previously sent were, oh, so welcome. In case you ever happen to have any more to spare,—say a broken lot,—think of my important work." A worker in the Goodwill Industries of New Jersey writes: "On behalf of our Sunday school, I wish to thank your Society for the generous donation of Bibles sent to Miss Wheeler, one of our workers here. As Miss Wheeler has no doubt told you, our Sunday school is an international one, and our work here a home missionary project. I can assure you that the boys and girls will give these Bibles good use." Another voluntary worker writes: "Some time ago I wrote you a few lines in which I acknowledged your gift of the Book of Proverbs, for which I thank you and praise the Lord for. The Lord is working in a wonderful way among the Spanish-speaking people of Bayonne, and I wish to ask you to remember this work in your prayers and to ask the Lord to use me more and more in his service. May the Lord richly bless you and use you more and more in his service is the honest prayer of yours in his service—*M. R. Cardenas.*"

In answer to our gift of some Italian Scriptures, we received this note: "Thank you so much for the donation of Bibles and Testaments you are having sent in response to the request of our Lutheran Italian pastor. I cannot tell you how greatly this kindness is appreciated and what a fine thing it is to be able to put the Word of God into the hands of these Italians, who are really thirsting for the Truth."

Pittsburgh Depository

No account of the Atlantic Agency would be complete that did not refer to our Pittsburgh depository. Our veteran and very competent superintendent, the Rev. J. Walker Miller, continues the supervision of this work, which includes a large part of western Pennsylvania. His careful supervision and consecrated efforts to meet every reasonable demand as far as his funds will permit, are deserving of continued commendation.

Mr. Gay, who is connected with our Pittsburgh depository, is now

the veteran colporteur in the employ of the Atlantic Agency, and it is doubtful if anyone has a longer or more creditable record in the work that is undertaken. In his last report for the year 1928, he says: "I wish to remind you of the fact that by God's help twenty-eight years of my life have been spent in spreading the Word of God among the foreign-speaking people in America. This is saying a good deal; for it is almost one half and the best of one's life spent in the most necessary work among the foreigners. And the best of it is, that it has been well spent. The difficulties, obstacles, and hardships have been, indeed, great; but praise God, all these are over now, and the Word of God is in the hands of thousands of foreigners who could not have gotten it, were it not for this work of ours. This is comforting and inspiring."

Scranton Depository

The work at Scranton, Pennsylvania, is under the supervision of the Rev. Dr. David Jones. His work in that great anthracite section of Pennsylvania demands a knowledge of the people and a study of the changing tides of population, in order that he may accomplish the work of Bible distribution among the many different nationalities found all throughout that section. Dr. Jones has found the usual obstacles that have come with a somewhat widespread reduction of work among the hard coal miners; but he has sought diligently to extend his work as far as possible, and to carry on the work that was prosecuted so successfully by his immediate predecessor.

Wilkes-Barre Depository

This depository includes the work of the Luzerne County Bible Society, which was organized November 1, 1819, nearly one hundred and ten years ago. Since the death of her husband, who was associated with her in this splendid work up to the time of his death, Mrs. Stone has continued the work with unusual success. In her annual report for the year 1928, she writes: "We are starting out on the one hundred and tenth year, feeling thankful the work is not going backward—slowly, it may be, but surely advancing along all lines. Many Scriptures have been given to the institutions, especially the prison. On Good Friday, the 200 men were visited at their cells, and suitable copies of the Scriptures given in various languages to all who wished them; also Easter cards and words of cheer. All the requests from the almshouse have been supplied. Several persons in the psychopathic hospital at Retreat were supplied at their request. Some were given to missions and to all individuals who wished them and were unable to pay for them. One man over ninety years of age was very happy to receive a coarse-print Testament and Psalms, and a dear old lady wept for joy when supplied with the Holy Book she needed and could not buy."

Mrs. Stone gives the following statistical report for the year 1928.

Bibles sold	465	Bibles donated	27
Testaments sold	312	Testaments donated	57
Portions sold	4,272	Portions donated	1,121
Total sales	5,049	Total donations	1,205

This is a total circulation of 6,254 volumes of the Scriptures. Total contributions collected by Mrs. Stone for the American Bible Society amounted to \$1,352.03.

During the summer of 1928, one of the colporteurs whom we employed had just been graduated from an institution connected with his own denomination. Mr. Robert D. Crees sends this report to us under the caption:

A Summer of Colportage Work

"I do not call myself a colporteur, because the average person does not know the meaning of the term. It would seem more fitting to be called 'God's letter carrier'; for whenever I give a Bible or portion of the Bible to some one, I feel that they are receiving a 'letter from God.' I am positive that I shall never forget the wonderful experiences I have had in the distribution of the Word of God. Making it a point to speak to every mail carrier I meet, I generally approach him with these words, 'Have you any mail for me?' When he answers in the negative, I tell him that I have mail for him,—a letter from God; and handing him a Gospel, I go on my way.

"The gospel is received in various ways. I handed a laborer a copy of St. John, and, after looking at it for a few minutes, he tore it in pieces, threw it to the ground, and stamped on it, and with his face inflamed with passion breathed out oaths that would have put any mule driver to shame. Some people have very superstitious ideas about the Bible. I was working in a little colored settlement not more than 25 miles from Trenton, N. J., and seemed to be doing an extraordinary amount of business. The night before, we had had an unusually fierce electrical storm, but the morning was bright and clear. One lady, the minute she found out that I was selling Bibles, immediately bought one, not even asking the price of it. When I asked her why she was so anxious to have a Bible, she replied, 'I was afraid that the Lord was going to strike the house with a bolt of lightning last night, because he knew that I did not have a Bible in the house. I made up my mind to get a Bible at the first opportunity, so that we might be protected from his wrath.' For several weeks I had the privilege of working with vacation Bible schools, supplying them with texts to be used in the schools and with prizes to be awarded. The work with the children is very interesting and worth while; but I rather prefer doing house-to-house work in the slum sections; for it is the personal touch that does the most good. Making it a point to come into every poolroom I come across, I have given out portions and sold Bibles and Testaments in seventy-five per cent of my visits. On one occasion while canvassing the slum section, a man seemed to be dubious about letting me into what I thought was a private house,

when some one inside yelled, 'Let him in; he can't do any harm, and God knows we need the Bibles.' Upon entering the room, it did not take long to ascertain that the place was a combination bootleg joint, gambling parlor, and house of ill fame. A guard stationed at the door passed upon the 'prospects' that desired admittance. A dozen men, white and colored, were lounging around the room, two of them on the floor, dead drunk. Others were playing cards while being served by the women. I gave each one a copy of the Gospel and started to speak about the Bible. A few of them seemed ashamed of the life they were leading and admitted they were doing wrong. I sold two Bibles and several Testaments, which the buyers promised to read. Only the Word of God can clean up such disgraceful places as that.

"Upon another occasion I noticed what appeared to be a 'down-and-outer' sleeping on a bench in a public park, his hat beside him. Taking the tract 'The Only Way out of the Dark,' I placed it in the band of his hat, so that he would see it upon awakening; and putting a Gospel of John in his pocket, I left him to be dealt with by the Word of God. Upon another occasion I was called into a very poor home to pray for a dying infant. I did the best I could to comfort the folks, trying to make them put their trust in God. They had never read a word of Scripture and had never prayed in their lifetime. I left several Gospels, and they promised to read them and to pray that night for the first time.

"In the poorest section of a little New Jersey town, I found a widow in destitute circumstances. She had no Bible and really wanted one. When I gave her one free, she broke down and cried, saying, "God must have sent you here; for I have wanted a Bible for a long time, but could not afford to buy one."

One of the newest recruits among our colporteurs is Mr. Angelo Pantaleo. He was born in Italy, but has been attending one of the theological seminaries of the Baptist Church and has been devoting his time, since leaving the seminary, in colportage work among the thousands of his fellow-countrymen in New Jersey and sections of eastern Pennsylvania. He reports a great ignorance of God's Word among the people whom he visits, but is also encouraged at the readiness with which many of them purchase a copy of the Scriptures. His sympathy for those who are ignorant of the Word sustains him in the many trying experiences that come to him. In one of his reports, he writes:

"Indeed, this work of selling Bibles is hard, especially with the hot weather we have had in these few past weeks. But the interest and the love for all the work of the Master, Jesus Christ, and the hope that people through reading the Word of God may be saved, gives the person strength and energy. No man can ever estimate the result of so many Bibles, Testaments, and portions given or sold to the people. God only knows. To us it is sufficient to know that we have done our duty."

NATIONAL CAPITAL AGENCY

The National Capital Agency was established in January, 1925, and includes the states of Maryland and Delaware, and the District of Columbia. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. James H. Hyatt, D.D., 724 Woodward Building, Washington, D.C.

The circulation for its fourth year of work ending December 31, 1928, was 5,984 Bibles, 6,599 Testaments, and 91,425 portions, or a total circulation of 104,008 volumes; making a total circulation of 328,643 volumes for its four years of service. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 2 colporteurs and an unlisted number of volunteers.



LIKE the Atlantic Agency, the National Capital Agency has the advantage of a compact territory of two states. And one of these states has the further advantage of being the field of one of the old and vigorous State Bible Societies—that of Maryland. The result is not simply or even chiefly advantageous to itself. Under the leadership of broad-minded managers and executive officers, this state Bible society for a number of years has assumed specific responsibility abroad. The payment annually of a substantial sum from its income built the Bible House at Cristobal—one of the chief crossroads of the New World. At present, similar generous gifts are paying for the newest Bible House in the Old World—that at Peking or Peiping. The pages which follow are a happy illustration of the Scriptural statement “there is that scattereth and yet increaseth.” For the work within the Agency flourishes.

In the Library of Congress six paintings in the East Hall by John W. Alexander tell the story of the evolution of the Book. The series consists of these presentations: (1) the cairn—a heap of stones erected as a memorial by prehistoric man; (2) Oriental tradition—an Oriental story-teller, relating his tale to a group of absorbed listeners; (3) hieroglyphics chiseled on an Egyptian tomb; (4) the pictograph or picture writing of the American Indian; (5) the manuscript of the Middle Ages; (6) the printing press, with the proof, which Gutenberg, the inventor of printing, is reading.

The story of the printed page in Sacred Literature is not less interesting. One can now find it, not only in paragraphs of history and

biography that have been written about patriarchs and prophets,—the outstanding New Testament characters, along with the striking features in men like John Wycliffe, the Morning Star of the Reformation, or William Tyndale,—but in the lives of millions of less renowned men. Average men have an interest in the Book; and those of us who have occasion to observe what interest men in the common walks of life take in the Book of books, are grateful for space enough in the pages of this report to say that the story cannot be written in words nor recorded in books. It is written in the lives of very many men. They alone can tell the story of the wonderful worth of this book to the children of men.

A Show-window Display

At the window of our storeroom, in Baltimore, a strange-looking man stood steadfastly gazing upon the pages of an open Bible. His eyes eagerly looked at one of the stories told by Jesus in the Gospel of St. Mark. The exhibit of the Bible was in a box covered with black velvet, and by the device of an intermittent electric light there was flashed to the view of this man the white letters that expressed to him the suggestion of "The Only Way Out of the Dark." What a suggestion to a man out of the common walks of life!

A Bible has been kept in our show-window for the convenience of those who pass by. We have seen this Bible read by letter carriers, policemen, merchants, and by very many from various walks of life.

Auxiliaries within the Agency

Several Auxiliary Bible Societies exist within the bounds of the National Capital Agency. They continue to render valuable service. In Maryland two vigorous societies function with effectiveness. The Maryland Bible Society has paid to date to the American Bible Society the sum of \$31,999.28 toward an enterprise which it has sponsored—the building of the Bible House at Peking, China. It will not be long when the full amount of \$50,000 shall be paid, and the Bible House in Peking, having been completed in October and dedicated to the Bible cause in China, stands as another witness of the fidelity of the Maryland Bible Society to the cause of distributing the Scriptures to the peoples of the earth. The other witness is in the Bible House at Cristobal, Panama Canal Zone; this Maryland Auxiliary having sponsored the enterprise in 1916.

The Young Men's Bible Society of Frederick County, Maryland, has cared for the distribution of the Scriptures in this county for a period covering nearly a century. It is the custom of this vigorous county Bible society to hold an annual anniversary meeting; at which time all the evangelical churches of the city of Frederick close, the several congregations assemble at a church appointed for the purpose of holding a Union meeting, and the Bible is the topic around which clusters considerable interest. These meetings are always well attended and are popular with the people.

The Washington City Bible Society belongs to the century class. Its work has been carried on in the District of Columbia for nearly one hundred years. It now functions through this Agency. Within the last year it gave \$1,000 to the American Bible Society from accumulated amounts representing balances in its treasury.

In Delaware, the Female Bible Society in New Castle continues its work, working out the idea of "line upon line and precept upon precept."

Bibles in Congressional Offices

The Bible apparently was not within ready reach, on an occasion in the Senate Office building, when a former Prohibition agent, who was testifying, made a startling statement and an attorney demanded of Senator Overman, chairman of the committee, that the witness be sworn on "the Bible." Senator Overman sent runners for a Bible, but not one could be found. A preacher present offered a pocket Testament, and that was used.

Noting through the press, that a Congressional committee not having a Bible near needed one to administer an oath, a gentleman sent a contribution to the Bible Society, and in his letter he said: "Now as Congress is appropriating large sums of money for the Army and the Navy, we want to appropriate this one dollar for a Bible." Two leather-bound Bibles were at once taken by the Agency Secretary to Senator Lee S. Overman, and the Senator suggested that one be placed in charge of the Custodian of the Senate Office Building, and the other in charge of the Custodian of the House Office Building. This was immediately done. We have not assumed that there is a scarcity of Scriptures in and around the Capitol, nor in the Library of Congress; for we are cognizant of the various manuscripts and versions of the Bible that are to be found on the stacks within that wonderful depository of literature provided by Congress itself. Let us remember, however, past ever forgetting, that for all practical purposes we need to keep the Bible in the front of our thinking, so far as government is concerned, that we may be a forward-looking people, determined to register for righteousness.

Walter Reed Hospital

There is no larger hospital for the men of the Army and the Navy in the United States than this one located in Washington, D. C. In January, 1928, the Headquarters Office of the American Bible Society in New York asked the Agency Secretary to present data on this situation; and, as a result, grants of Bibles, Testaments, and portions of Scriptures, including foreign language books, were made to Chaplain A. C. Oliver, with the understanding that the Scriptures be distributed to the patients of the hospital.

On the U. S. S. Mayflower

It was a beautiful day, October 26, 1928, when two representatives of the American Bible Society—the Rev. George William Brown, General

Secretary, and the Rev. James H. Hyatt, D.D., Agency Secretary,—by special invitation, boarded the U. S. S. Mayflower, the President's private yacht. They were met by officers and Chaplain Reuben W. Shrum of this distinguished ship. They were there for the presentation of a beautiful Bible bound in red morocco and inscribed with gold lettering as follows:

PRESENTED TO THE U. S. S. MAYFLOWER
FOR THE USE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
HIS GUESTS, THE OFFICERS AND CREW OF THE SHIP
BY
THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY—1928

An address was made by the General Secretary, in which he referred to eminent men associated with the American Bible Society, and the Bible was presented by the Agency Secretary on behalf of the American Bible Society to the chaplain, who responded with words of gratitude for the Book. Then followed a prayer offered by Chaplain Reuben W. Shrum of the U. S. S. Mayflower.

Our Work in Maryland

Beginning at Hagerstown, a city and county seat in Washington County, near Antietam Creek and at the junction of several railroads, our colporteur took up his task. Here is the principal market of the mountain peach crop; and the town has a large trade in hardwoods, besides manufactures of various description, iron foundries, and flour-mills. It is in the center of a rich farming region. Opportunities were, therefore, afforded our young man in this environment to reach fruit growers, agricultural and industrial workers. In Pocomoke City, a town of Worcester County, on Pocomoke River in the Eastern Shore section of the state, this same colporteur found the trade in sawmills, flourmills, and other industries. While laboring here in distributing the Word, he also covered Princess Anne, the county seat of Somerset County, and sections surrounding this fertile country.

A canvass was made in sections of Charles County. Making the trip to the county along the Crain Highway from Baltimore, we eventually came to the terminal. At this point of the highway we came to a place known as T. B. Curious to us was this situation. Upon asking the significance of the capital letters which had for years characterized the name of this little place, we found that two accounts are given concerning it. One account declared that a man named Tom Brown once lived there, and that the initials of his name were retained as a memorial to mark the terminus of the highway that cost a million and a half dollars. This is the leading public highway to Baltimore, built for the benefit of southern Maryland tobacco growers. To us this story was interesting. At once we thought of Tom Brown, of Oxford, with his Rugby ideals. The other account declared that it was a man named

Tom Bowie, who once dwelt there. In either account it was a clear case of T. B. We left in this little place copies of the Scriptures for the benefit of the few inhabitants of the community.

Before long we reached La Plata, the county seat. The surface of this section of the state is level, and the soil is light and loamy, well suited to tobacco raising. The county was organized in 1658 and was named for Charles Calvert, son of Cecilius. It contains 460 square miles, and the major portions of its population adheres to the Roman Catholic Church. We made no attempt to sell the Scriptures here, but covered the town with gratuitous distributions of penny portions. This kind of seed sowing was carried on at Port Tobacco also. Another trip was necessary. The Secretary accompanied with a helpmate, the Rev. John Holt, went to Indianhead, a goodly sized town of Charles County, and repeated the program of gospel seed sowing, visiting from door to door, with the good news of the Kingdom as recorded on the pages of printed Gospels. Our work here in July was on a reservation, in which the United States maintains a place for the manufacture of powder. At this place we were pleased to distribute to the residents the Book of Power. In the Gospel we believe we have a real dynamic.

Two Trips

Two special colportage trips were made to Kent Island, one by way of water and the other across the Eastern Shore with the Secretary's Buick car. Love Point was canvassed on the first trip. On the second trip Chester and Stevensville were canvassed. American Bible Society literature was freely distributed, and portions of the Scriptures were placed in each home. At Stevensville, Queen Anne County, a group of Sunday-school children received some of our literature with reference to China. They sent at Christmas time a contribution for the purpose of having Chinese Gospels distributed through the China Agency. Word was immediately sent to Dr. Carlton Lacy with reference to the incident; and he, in turn, assured Dr. Hyatt that the Gospels would be distributed in China.

Another colportage trip was made to Tilghmans' Island, Talbot County, where Tilghman and Fairbank were thoroughly covered in house-to-house visitation. This was a very interesting work, carried on principally among fishermen.

Special work was done at Edgewood Arsenal, Harford County, and at Wittman and Sherwood, Talbot County.

An interesting work in distribution was done in Baltimore County, in which Parkton, Wiseburg, and White Hall were included.

At Bird River Beach, Baltimore County, while the hosts entertained their guests from Baltimore, Philadelphia and other places, in the cottages and on the beach, Bible Society visitors handed out Gospels with an American flag in each as a souvenir of the occasion. It was July 4, 1928.

One colporteur carried on the work that was done in Baltimore

City during the year. In addition to this work in the homes of the people and visitations to the wharves of the city, a special work was done at the Anchorage, Broadway and Thames Street, Baltimore, when many seafaring men were reached with the Word.

Colporteur Hartman in Delaware

Besides doing considerable work during the early summer in Hagerstown, Maryland, under the auspices of the Maryland Bible Society, William A. Hartman, a student from Randolph Macon College, labored earnestly in the effort to get the Word of God out to the people in sections of the state of Delaware.

In Middletown, New Castle County, twenty-five miles south of Wilmington, our colporteur had opportunity to come in contact with people living in the midst of a rich agricultural district. Apart from the distributions of Scripture he made, he also distributed the advertising literature of the Society, thereby making the Society better known in this section. At Townsend, a thriving village in the southern part of the county, he did a similar work. From this place he next went to Blackbird in the same county, and traveled in a Ford car, using this to facilitate the carrying of a large variety of the Scriptural publications of the American Bible Society and the commercial publishing houses. In Smyrna, which is on the right bank of the Smyrna River, separating Kent from New Castle County, he found the center of one of the finest fruit-producing districts in the state. In this community and at Clayton, which is the railroad center for the offices of the Delaware Railroad, the canvass of this colporteur was brought to a conclusion just before he returned to his college. The work in Kent and New Castle Counties must be measured more by the processes started for the Bible cause, than by the immediate results in single acts in the distribution of the Book. In our offices we have set up a card index system containing the names and addresses of people in various communities we are trying to reach with the Word. And we believe that, through advertising methods and personal contacts, we shall be able to awaken interest in our program.

An Important Convention

It is generally conceded that Washington has long been regarded as the most desirable location, in which to hold a convention. The Forty-ninth General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of America registered for this great church in the capital city; the first convention of this religious body having taken place in Philadelphia one hundred and forty-three years ago. These conventions have been held triennially since that time, and we note with interest that they antedate the organization of the Federal Government itself.

On the tenth floor of the New Willard Hotel, the House of Bishops held their sessions in connection with the General Convention; while the House of Deputies held theirs in the Continental Hall of the Daughters of America, in October. In the Willard Room or that portion des-

ignated as the Post Office for the Convention, the National Capital Agency of the American Bible Society put on an exhibit consisting of an intermittent light box containing a Bible upon which the light was flashed on and off, showing what is "The Only Way Out of the Dark." In addition, there was a display of various kinds of Scriptures and a distribution of pamphlets for the delegates. Mr. Darlington, our Treasurer, made effective appeals to the bishops and deputies assembled in their respective meeting places.

Among the Alien People

Throughout the year, from time to time, we gave ourselves to reaching the strangers within our gates. These alien people appreciate the friendly approach. In a single instance we found a Chinese poor and lonely. We told him that we came to bring him a present—a God-Book. It was printed in the Canton Colloquial dialect, his own language. The story of Jesus was news to him. In several instances Chinese have caught the vision as Christian workers have gained their confidence. There are, at least, four hundred and thirty Chinese in the city of Baltimore, and there are Chinese Sunday schools among the Baptists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, and possibly other churches in the city. They are all doing good work. Our colportage system calls for a personal visit to these men in the laundries, the shops, the restaurants, and houses of merchandise. A splendid service has been rendered by Charles Anderson in his visitation to the ships, on which he has come into contact with Chinese, Japanese and Indians on board of the ships that have come into the harbor of Baltimore. In Washington, we found a Chinatown. Our visitations were to importers, commission merchants, and laundries located along Pennsylvania Avenue. We found a restaurant keeper here whose son was at that time a student in Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, and his daughter was pursuing her college course in the George Washington University of the District of Columbia. The father received from us three English copies of St. John and a few for other distributions he desired to make, and became much interested in what we were doing. In our sojourn we found Japanese in their shops, and engaged in conversation with them concerning the way of life. Some of them had an aversion to the Christian religion.

In Wilmington there are Chinese, and a manifest concern has been taken in them by a few Christian gentlemen, interested in helping them in many ways. Further plans are on the way for considerable help to be given them.

If you cannot cross the Ocean
And the heathen lands explore,
You can bring the blessed gospel
To the heathen at your door.

SOUTH ATLANTIC AGENCY

The South Atlantic Agency was established in 1907, and includes the states of Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. M. B. Porter, 218 No. Adams Street, Richmond, Va.

The circulation for the year 1928 consisted of 15,134 Bibles, 36,487 Testaments, and 287,544 portions, making a total of 339,165 volumes. This brings the total circulation since the establishment of the Agency to 2,977,663 volumes. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 4 col-porteurs, 85 correspondents, and 120 volunteers.



HEALTHY and happy fact is illustrated in this report. Public school authorities and teachers alike are awake to the value of the Bible in their schools, and in the lives of their pupils. Volunteer workers and those they stimulate also make thoughtful efforts on behalf of the young people of this long Agency, stretching from the banks of the Potomac to Key West. Nor are efforts confined to young pupils. Adult illiterates are being reached and are responding in a way that promises much for their future. "The chief textbook for the reading classes is a large-print Testament which we have furnished at a reduced price" is a sentence that tells of the service and cooperation, which, of course, is likewise rendered to other groups and areas by this Agency, as the pages that follow will reveal.

It is a somewhat difficult task to sum up a year's work after the work has been done day by day, and month by month. What seemed of importance when it was being done often fades into the background by reason of the fact that so many other things come in to occupy attention. However, as we think back over the year and the work, we will try to record some of the things which, we trust, may serve to foster interest in our great undertaking.

We are grateful to report a distribution of 339,165 volumes. Our distribution was not as large in entire Bibles as we could wish; but, as the chief aim of our work is to reach the masses with the Word of God, we are convinced that the missionary aspect of the work is furthered by the very fact that we are distributing larger and larger numbers of Testaments and portions each year. We are persuaded that many people will read a single book of the Bible in the penny form when they would not read a chapter, or possibly any portion, in the

entire Bible. One prominent judge in our city said to us some time ago: "The penny edition is a mechanical device to get the people to read the Bible."

As compared with 1927, we show an increase in distribution of 23,628. This result is due largely to the earnest effort and cooperation on the part of those who, in the office and on the field, have given such devoted service in the work. We desire in this connection to give to each of these faithful helpers our assurance of a sincere "Well Done."

The Bible Reading Campaign

This was the first outstanding matter of interest at the beginning of the year. It was a great success. Many pastors and others cooperated with the plan and helped in sundry ways to carry it through. The New York office had already paved the way by intensive circularization and advertising. Our part was to carry on and finish what had been started.

The plan was popular with a number of women's organizations. One lady said they felt quite let down after the reading campaign was over, and suggested that it would be a fine thing to continue reading, as it gave a definite objective.

Public Schools

More and more the attention of lawmakers, and leaders in education is being given to the question of the importance and place of the Bible in the public schools. A majority of the states have already legalized the reading of the Bible in such institutions. We have found here a waiting harvest, especially in this portion of our great country, and we have given special attention to this work during the year. We have found scores of teachers who are willing and anxious to have Testaments and portions for distribution among their pupils. These Scriptures are not given out in a haphazard manner, but are used in connection with the regular school work, and the young people are encouraged to memorize numerous selections. We have been able to meet practically every request for Scriptures for this purpose; for we feel that the importance of committing Scriptures to memory and the studying of them in early childhood cannot be too strongly emphasized.

There is one woman in Lenoir, N. C., who has, during the year, distributed 50 Bibles, 6,000 Testaments and 10,000 portions among the public schools in several counties in that section of the state.

She received no salary, but does this work from the pure joy of the service, and out of her meager resources and amounts furnished by friends she has paid for most of these books, we having allowed her a discount. She has established "golden rule libraries" in connection with many of these schools. Wherever such a library is formed consisting of fifteen or twenty books, the Bible Society donates a Bible

for it. She reports that these Bibles are often carried home and kept by the children the regulation length of time. They are also used for reference work, and a period is set aside each week in a number of these schools for the general reading of the Bible, with questions about it.

There is also a layman in Atlanta, Georgia, who, after working ten hours a day, takes his "spare time" to distribute by mail and otherwise the portions of the Bible and Testament in the mountain sections of his and other states. He has organized a society for this purpose. He has also prepared a questionnaire on one of the Gospels, and when this is successfully answered, a ten-cent Testament is given as a reward. His work is supported largely by contributions from friends who are interested in it. Within the past year he has distributed more than 2,000 Testaments and 28,000 portions, paying for the greater number of these books. We have from time to time made donations of Testaments as we were able to do. Many of the young people reached through this society are in sections of the country largely destitute as regards religious privileges and opportunities. It is our deliberate conviction that no finer piece of constructive work is being done within our Agency, than this among these young people of school age.

Church Mission Schools, Eleemosynary Institutions, Etc.

In supplying Scriptures to such institutions, we are doing work that comes particularly within our province and carries out the missionary purpose of the Society. Those who sell Bibles for profit rarely, if ever, seek the patronage of such institutions. Here, therefore, we have a virgin field for our endeavors. In most instances, we have had the cordial welcome and cooperation of those in charge, and our efforts to reach the inmates of these institutions have been successful. In distributing these Scriptures, we have emphasized the importance of the reading and study of God's Word.

The New York office has given us a special appropriation twice this year to help us in this particular work. These came at a time when our resources were low, and enabled us to meet an urgent need which our regular appropriation would not have covered. This work has had the strong endorsement of leading ministers and laymen, and many of them have done the actual distributing of the books, not as a hand-out process, but as an individual effort, endeavoring to bring a message of comfort to each man. In this work many striking and moving experiences are witnessed; as illustration we quote from a letter received from a chaplain in prison work:

"God's Converging Lines"

"A number of years ago, a devout clergyman of the Episcopal Church asked me if I had ever noticed how God made a plan and then (sometimes) took many years and many agents to carry it out. We

know the doctrine is good, and it is interesting to trace some of those converging lines.

"I saw a striking scene today. In the T. B. ward of the Virginia penitentiary, lying fast in bed, is a little brown man from the Philippine Islands. He speaks English very poorly, and none of us can speak his native tongue. Over and over again, we have wished to help him; but what could we do? At last, we thought of that great friend of the world missions for the Master—the American Bible Society. We found that the man could read in a language, the very name of which was new to us—the Ilocano language. Then we mentioned our need to the Rev. M. B. Porter, local Agent of the Bible Society. He passed the call onto the headquarters in New York, and very promptly there came to us by mail a New Testament in the language in which the man had been born.

"Think of it! Some one had been sent out by the Christian church, and that one had labored and learned until he could translate the Word into the language of the strange man. The American Bible Society took up the matter as one of its numerous jobs of like sorts, had the book printed and bound, and was ready, at the call of need from one lonely man, to give the Word of Life. I stood by his bed today, gave into his hands the precious Book, and asked him to read first of all, John 3:16. It was a fine experience to see the smile upon his face. And when I left the prison, after half an hour's visit, he still had his lean hands, outside the bed covers, holding the Book, and was straining his weak neck to see and to read.

"Certainly, it will not be hard for you to offer a prayer, asking that the lonely little brown man may find light as he reads."

Mission schools and Sunday schools, along with hospitals and similar institutions, have given us many opportunities of service, which we have improved to the limit of our ability. Through these channels God's Word has found its way into many darkened corners and into many a discouraged life. But we have reason to believe, that through the influence of God's truth that darkness has been dispelled, and discouragement has given way to hope.

Lumberjacks

We have many thousands of these rugged fellows within our area, and it has been our privilege to do a fine piece of work among them. In this effort we have had the cooperation of a Christian man and his wife, who have dedicated their lives and talents to this particular service. They travel in a car equipped for living purposes, and usually spend some time at each camp visited. They do this work always at a sacrifice, frequently in the face of rebuffs, and occasionally violent opposition. But these trials they bear with such Christian courage and spirit as to win over, in time, those who opposed them. We have, through the efforts of these helpers, distributed among these men 10,000 copies of Gospels and Proverbs. These Scripture portions

were distributed with care, and with each copy there went the promise by the recipient that the book would be preserved and read. Numerous instances could be cited of groups of these men gathered in their bunk houses after days of toil, in an atmosphere not conducive to the highest aspirations in life, reading these little books and discussing the truth contained therein.

Vacation Bible Schools

These schools are becoming more and more a matter of importance in the sphere of religious education. With weeks of intensive Bible study, such as is done in these schools, there must come the best results in character and life. As in former years, we have cooperated with promoters of these schools, and have thus had the opportunity to distribute many hundreds of copies of Scriptures. The larger cost of this has been provided by those in charge of these schools.

A great work is being done in the western portion of North Carolina among the adult illiterates, under the supervision of Mrs. J. M. Day. The chief textbook for the reading classes in these schools is the large-print Testament which we have furnished at a reduced price. Each pupil is given his copy of the Testament as a reward when he has learned to read and write and reach some other standards in scholarship. Much interest has been created by this method. These pupils range in age from twenty to eighty years. Their joy is unbounded when, by their own efforts, they reach the standard and receive as their very own the copies of these Testaments. We rejoice that we have continued to share in this work, which means so much to these people who have not had a chance before.

Evangelists

In these men, with rare exceptions, we have found not only willing but efficient helpers. Through their cooperation, we have been enabled to distribute large numbers of Testaments and portions and a limited number of Bibles. Many of these do this work without monetary compensation, and, in other cases, they have been content with a small commission. Since these evangelists labor often in the more destitute section of the country, we are, through their efforts, able to reach with the Word of God a large number of the more needy, and at a time when they are best prepared to receive it. We have one friend among these men, whose chief reliance for success is by him attributed to the copies of Scriptures which he distributed during his meetings.

Sailors and Seamen

During the year many thousands of these men touch at the seaports within the territory of our Agency. Among the needs they have, there are none greater than the spiritual ones. We have done what

we could in this respect by supplying Scriptures for these children of the sea.

Our largest work in their behalf has been in cooperation with the Union Mission in Norfolk, Virginia. Here we have furnished Bibles for all of the rooms in the home of the mission, and, in addition, have provided 500 Testaments and 5,000 portions for distribution among the patrons of this mission. Many of the Scriptures were in foreign languages. During the year we have sent smaller supplies of Scriptures to similar missions in Wilmington, N. C., Charleston, S. C., Jacksonville, Tampa, and Key West, Fla.

The Marines

We have had an interesting work among this class also. We had the opportunity to do a great deal more, but we were hindered by limited resources. In our efforts to get the Word of God into the hands of these fine young men, we have had the cordial help of chaplains and others. Our largest work has been at the training camp, at Quantico, Virginia, at the Naval hospital in Norfolk, Virginia, and at the embarkation camp at Parris Island, South Carolina. We have many testimonials to the eagerness with which, almost to a man, the Scriptures are taken by these soldier boys. We have sent more than 1,500 Testaments of an edition especially suited to their use. These books are given, and received by the men, with the promise that they will be preserved and diligently read.

Emergency Work in Florida

We have had a very serious condition to reckon with in Florida. This has been due, first, to the slump in the real estate boom. This brought financial disaster to many, and depressed the whole commercial situation in a large part of that state. While the boom was on, we had great difficulty in getting books to our workers, by reason of the embargoes put on certain commodities by the railroads and express companies. Shipments of Bibles were not considered a necessity, and oftentimes they were delayed while "wood, hay, and stubble" was given right of way. This interfered seriously with our workers, and when the break came and they could get the books, the general public had no money with which to buy, and so we lost out. As a result a number of our workers quit.

Following this slump, portions of Florida were visited by disastrous floods and hurricanes, which left in their wake, not only millions of dollars in property destroyed, but thousands of lives lost. One of our workers wrote that, in a community where he expected to work, over 2,000 lives were lost; this being three-fourths of the population of that section.

Out of this condition there came an emergency need for Scriptures, which we endeavored to meet, and, with an extra appropriation from

the Home Office, we did meet, so far as the greater needs were concerned.

In this work we had the assistance of our regular workers, and the enthusiastic help of a number of volunteers, each group under the supervision of some faithful pastor in that section. Calls are still coming for help, and we are still responding to the limit of our resources. In round numbers we have already sent into the flood area 600 Bibles, 2,500 Testaments, and 5,000 portions.

Conclusion

In all of our planning and effort we have had always in mind the missionary nature and purpose of our work. We have been governed and guided by the teaching of the Master in the parable of the Lost Sheep. It is the one who is lost and needs the Book who demands our best efforts and sacrifice, and we believe our work will be appraised by Him in proportion as we thus try to find these lost ones and give them His Word.

It has been an inspiration to feel the pull of the great enterprise to which we have set our hearts and hands; to watch the unfolding of God's purpose, and to have some share in his program to give the written Word to the whole world.

We acknowledge with profound gratitude the evidences we have had of His blessings upon our efforts. We would ascribe to Him all praise, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We have had our difficulties; at times we have been perplexed. The burdens have been heavy, and the way has not been always smooth; but, with it all, there has been a wonderful sustaining fellowship. He has led, and, we believe, He still leads on, and by His grace we are willing to follow Him all the way.

CENTRAL AGENCY

The Central Agency was established in 1909. The field includes the states of Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Alabama. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. Frank Marston, D.D., 424 Elm Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The circulation for 1928 was 17,150 Bibles, 26,585 Testaments, and 274,219 portions, making a total of 317,954 volumes. The aggregate circulation since 1909 is now 2,293,894 volumes. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 4 colporteurs, 12 correspondents, and 69 volunteers.



TRUE to its predecessors, this report again magnifies the value of the service of colporteurs. Likewise true to the established policy of the Society, this Agency uses other and all worthy means of bringing individuals and the Bible together. Correspondents and volunteers, school-teachers, men and especially women, in their private activities, share in this seriously important work. So the Bible has gone to public schools and private homes, to railway stations and hotel rooms, to farms and factories, to families and individuals, to orphanages and old folks' homes, to hospitals for the sick, and refuges for the seamen, to industrial centers and mountain fastnesses, to reformatories and prisons—in fact, anywhere and everywhere that human feet have trodden and needy hearts are found. Two arresting sentences run: "Perhaps, if more Bible work were done in the home and in the school, there would be less need for it in the prison. It is said that the laws of some states forbid the Bible in public schools and require it in the penitentiary." The story follows of this service from the shores of Lake Erie to the Gulf of Mexico.

A recent book by a Roman Catholic priest pays high tribute to the work done by Protestant missionaries in circulating the Bible. In speaking of Protestant mission work, as he had observed it in Africa, he goes on to say: "The missionary method to which Protestants attach the greatest importance, and to which we Catholics have no corresponding plan, lies in the intensive distribution of the Bible." This gifted writer of the Roman Church asserts that, in this widespread distribution of the Bible in the native tongue, the Protestant

Church finds its greatest source of power. And this is the very work in which the American Bible Society has been engaged for these one hundred and thirteen years—distributing to the peoples of the earth the Bible translated into their own tongue, so that every man might read in his own language “the wonderful works of God.”

And this is the work the Central Agency of the Bible Society has been trying to do during 1928, in the more limited territory assigned to it in the states of Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi. What has been done has been done in spite of serious handicaps, for the Secretary himself has been seriously ill part of the time; one of our old veteran colporteurs was run down and killed by an automobile; another of our best field workers was also run down by a “speeder” and was taken up more dead than alive, with numerous broken bones and serious bruises; our assistant bookkeeper was taken suddenly ill and died in four days, and the regular bookkeeper was ill and out of the office for several weeks. In spite of all this, the Secretary wishes to bear testimony to the “goodness and mercy” that have surely followed us all the days, and to the loyal and efficient help of all his coworkers.

Various Methods

As in every enterprise, the methods employed in the circulation of the Scriptures have to be various, and they have to be changed to meet changing conditions and needs. The old-time method of using men, called colporteurs, to go from house to house, offering the Scriptures for sale, or giving to the poor, is a plan hard to improve. It has its special features of excellency that cannot be found in any other; that is, if the colporteur be the right kind of man; for the human element has always to be reckoned with in any undertaking, no matter if the man be a horse jockey, a lawyer, or a minister. The success of the undertaking depends not only on the plan, but on the man back of it. The colporteur has received many a crown of thorns; he is destined at last to receive the crown of glory; for in hundreds of cases, in the work of distribution, he has been “faithful unto death.” The Central Agency has been able to employ only four of these men during 1928. Just one year ago, one of our very best men and veteran colporteurs, the Rev. M. A. Dean, of Findlay, Ohio, was run down by an auto and died in a few days. His death was a great loss to the work; for we have not been able to replace him. We have had four others who have been busy at this task all year; really three who have given their whole time to the work, the other being a pastor who could give only part time. These men have visited over 22,000 families; they found and supplied with the Scriptures over 3,000 Bibleless homes, and, in doing so, they traveled nearly 10,000 miles. A colporteur’s visit means more than the call of an “agent.” It usually means a religious conversation, possibly with people who have not talked, or thought, about the lasting things of the soul for years,

maybe since childhood; it usually also means a prayer in the home where one has not been offered for years—maybe never; it may also, and often does, mean the conversion of a soul, sometimes of a whole family.

One of our colporteurs, the Rev. Rade Pesut, of Cleveland, reports that he touches about 200 Bibleless homes each month. During 1928 he distributed the Scriptures in the following different languages: Armenian, Croatian, Bohemian, English, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Lithuanian, Polish, Roumanian, Russian, Ruthenian, Serbian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, and Syrian. That is rather a good year's work for one man. The Rev. W. L. Lyon, though fighting tuberculosis for several years, still "carries on" and has traveled with his Bible auto all over the hill country of North Alabama, and has reached hundreds of homes that would not otherwise have been touched.

We will take only one page from the record book of Colporteur F. W. Points, and we find that, during the months of September and October, 1' 28, he visited 3,050 homes, held in these homes 610 religious services, found and supplied 66 Bibleless homes, led eight people to conversion, and that, in doing this work, he had to travel approximately 900 miles.

These three examples of work done by colporteurs show the vast difference between an "agent" and a colporteur. The "agent" only comes to sell, usually at an exorbitant price, and then goes his way. The colporteur comes "that they might have life and have it more abundantly."

But the story of the colporteurs is not the whole of it by any means. There are the pastors in rural districts, evangelists, and many others who will be mentioned later, who have given part time to this work, and who, in one way or another, have come in contact with multitudes in the distribution of the Word. And this brings us to speak of another of the methods we have used in the circulation of the Bible in 1928, and that is through the volunteer work. There were many of these, some doing more, some less, one in this field and another in that, but all working together with God for the one great purpose; namely, to bring the knowledge of the gospel to the people.

Volunteer Workers

We have had more of these than ever before, and yet there are multitudes of such workers standing idle "in the market place" who would be glad to lend a hand, if only we could get in touch with them. There were those good women in Gulfport, Mississippi, who made a canvass of their town in search of Bibleless homes, reporting us the number needed, and then delivering them to the homes when we sent them the Bibles. I do not believe there is a better work to be found than this. The women who volunteer to do such a work have all the missionary zeal of the colporteur and none of the commercialism of the

agent. Here is a vast army of reserves, kept idle in camp, and never called out into active service.

Then, there are those who have kept the work of the "wayside pulpit" going in many places during the year: Mrs. A. K. McLeod, of Sylacauga, Alabama, and, following her death, her daughter, Mrs. Margaret Patterson; Mrs. Wm. E. Graham, of Maryville College, Tennessee, and her helpers; and Miss Patsy Calmese, of Stanford, Kentucky. These, and many others, have kept these "wayside pulpit" boxes filled with Gospels for the passers-by. I should also have mentioned the Rev. Otis K. Andrews, superintendent of the Wesley Institute and Goodwill Industries and Mission, of Memphis, who has distributed thousands of Gospels in this way. The passer-by takes a Gospel—nobody knows who takes it. It is like the arrow shot into the air, that falls to the ground we know not where. But some day it may be found in the character of a man or woman whom it has first transfixed, and then completely transformed. Who knows? These "wayside pulpit" boxes have been kept filled in railway stations, bus stations, hospitals, hotel lobbies, barber shops, doctors' waiting rooms, courthouse corridors, and such like public places. Like every other plan for doing anything, it must have a consecrated personality back of it to keep it going.

Greek Meets Greek

One very interesting instance of volunteer work is that of a converted Greek in a southern city, who is intensely interested in the conversion of his fellow Greeks. We will let him tell his own story: "The Greeks have never had a chance to hear the plan of the gospel. They believe in the priests who came to this country to cut the wool off the sheep and clothe themselves, but do not feed the sheep. I was in this country fifteen years before any one invited me to Sunday school or church. A man came to my place and bought forty dollars worth of candy; I asked him what he was going to do with it, and he then invited me to their Christmas entertainment. I went, because I thought that maybe I could sell some more candy. I had been invited to saloons, but never to a church. Now that I am a Christian, my heart goes out for those people who never had an opportunity. Ninety percent of the Greek priests in this country can not read, write, or understand the English language, and the Greeks born in this country can not understand Greek. The only hope of reaching them is to teach them the Bible in English. There are 500,000 Greeks in this country." This man has established a mission for his people in his city, he says, and we have been supplying him with the Scriptures for this purpose. We are only too glad to lend a hand.

The pastor of an Italian Presbyterian church comes in and wants help to supply his young people with the Bible. We are only too glad to help this man with a donation, and he goes on his way rejoicing with a full supply of Bibles for his young people.

Public School-teachers Help

Some of the very best volunteer workers we have had, have been the teachers in our public schools, both in the city and in the rural districts. It occurred to the Secretary that, in states where the law required the reading of the Bible in the public school, the teacher could be, and maybe would be, a great help in getting the Bible portions into the hands of the children and young people. Accordingly, word was sent through the county superintendent to all the public school-teachers of a certain county in Kentucky, that the little penny Gospels could be had on application to the American Bible Society for use in memory work with the children of the public schools. Very soon the orders began to come in from teachers, asking for Gospels—"for thirty pupils," "for forty pupils," for "seventy-five pupils," for the "pupils of a one-room school," and so on. The experiment worked, though the teachers did not seem to be so willing to pay postage on the free Gospels as I had supposed. But here, as elsewhere, it all depended on the individual. But it was a great satisfaction to know that in this way we reached hundreds of children, and, through them, many homes where the language of the gospel is as an unknown tongue. This would be the case in any community, and for this reason the Secretary proposes to push this plan to the limit in 1929.

Five hundred penny Gospels were sent to the Caney Creek Community Center at Pippapass, Kentucky, to be put one each in as many Christmas bags going out to the branch schools in the more remote "backwoods," one bag to a family. This means that one Gospel was placed in each of 500 homes. How many of these were Bibleless homes, no one knows. We also made a donation of Bibles to the Carr Creek Community Center, Carr Creek, Kentucky, and in this way we reached more homes through volunteer workers.

Another appeal came to us from a public school-teacher in Tennessee for a donation of Bibles to be given to poor children in her school—children whose parents were too poor to buy them. This teacher says that she has "a great longing in her heart to bring her pupils to Christ." Needless to say that the Bibles were sent.

Prison Work

Perhaps, if more Bible work were done in the home and in the school, there would be less need for it in prisons. It is said that the laws of certain states forbid the Bible in the public school and require it in the penitentiary. However, the Central Agency has been glad of the privilege to place many Bibles in the hands of those who are behind prison walls. These have been sent either as a donation or as a sale; in some instances, the state has paid for these out of the public funds. Some were sent to the chaplain of the Kentucky penitentiary at Eddyville. In the Frankfort, Kentucky, state penitentiary, Dr. Chas. H. Pratt, professor of Evangelism in the Presbyterian seminary at Louisville, has done a very fine piece of evangel-

istic work with the prisoners. For this work we were glad to supply many copies of the Scripture. Quoting from one of his letters: "There have been many confessions of faith in Christ in my work in the prisons. There looked to be twoscore last Sunday." Many Bibles have also been sent for the work of evangelism in the Mississippi state prison at Drew, conducted so ably by Miss Mary Lee Boozer. Miss Boozer has a plan for systematic Bible study for the prisoners, and we are not surprised when she reports in July that they have already had 48 conversions, and we are persuaded the gospel is still "the power of God unto salvation."

The Rev. Curtis E. Shields, chaplain of the London, Ohio, prison farm, sees to it that his prison parishioners are kept well supplied with the Scriptures. He writes us for a Slovak Bible for one of these prodigal "strangers within our gates." If we see to it that these "strangers" are imprisoned for crime, it is only right that we should also see to it that they are taught the better way.

It has also been our joy to provide Bibles for the chaplain's work in the Ohio state penitentiary, paid for out of the state treasury. We have also provided, free, many Testaments for the Hamilton, Ohio, county jail, as the work has been done by Deaconess Drant, of the Episcopal Church.

The Rev. O. V. Caudill, Whitesburg, Ky., writes that they have made good use of the Bibles sent him for free distribution; that they hold regular services in the county jail and have provided the prisoners with Bibles, especially for those men who were being sent on to the state penitentiary.

At Chillicothe, Ohio, where the government has converted one of its wartime barracks into a Federal industrial reformatory, there are about 400 men and boys, ranging in age from sixteen to thirty. Fortunately, a chaplain is in charge who has the spiritual welfare of these unfortunate men at heart. Some of these men are illiterates and from the homes of the very poor. They never had a chance. Others are from the homes of the rich and well-to-do, are well educated, and have had every chance. They are there from every part of the country. The illiterates are taught to read and write by their fellow prisoners, who are glad of the chance to put their time to some good use. But that is not all; all of them are taught the way of life and salvation by a consecrated chaplain, and that is where the Bible Society comes in; for it has been our pleasure to provide them with the needed Bibles, and so we have a part in this salvaging of human wreckage.

Hospitals

"I was sick and ye visited me." We have been trying to do that, as we have sent Bibles, Testaments, and small Scripture portions for the sick in our hospitals. Grants of Gospels were made for the patients in, and visitors to, the Methodist Hospital at Pineville, Ky., the hospital for Crippled Adults, Memphis, Tenn., the City Hospital of

Cincinnati, the Baptist Hospital, Ashland, Ky., the Sanatorium, Sanatorium, Miss., Beverly Hills Sanatorium, Knoxville, Tenn., and Tuberculosis Hospital, Cincinnati, and many others.

Orphans

The "child in the midst" always appeals to us, and especially if that child be without loving parents and without a home. But when such children have been placed in a "home," or "asylum," we have tried to minister to them there. Appeals from the Presbyterian "Bachman Home and School" for Bibles has been granted to the limit of our funds at the time. For it must be remembered that even a Bible Society runs short of funds at times and is compelled to say "no" to the most worthy appeal. We were told that the children in this home "are from the poorest type of mountaineers in — County, Tenn."

Bethany Orphanage, in the Kentucky mountains, we were glad to help to the extent of their need.

Other orphanages have been helped from time to time, and no appeal has been refused that could possibly be granted.

Community Centers

Many appeals have come to us from institutions of this kind. A Bible for each room in the Newsboys' Home in Cincinnati, for the Wesley House in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, where the workers say they are "working with a very needy class of people"; the Friendly Center Community House in Toledo, Ohio. Of this work the writer says that they are located in the midst of 3,000 Syrians. The appeal for this institution was for Scriptures in Ancient and Modern Syriac as well as in English. When we sent the Scriptures for this work, the superintendent wrote us that they were received with great glee by the children of the Sunday school, some of them saying: "Haint it nice?" "This is the first time I ever had one in my hands"; and the little speaker hugged her new found treasure, and each child begged for one as his very own. We may smile at these expressions and call them "childish," but we cannot forget that at one time there was One who said: "If these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out."

Bibles were also provided for a community center in Nashville, and for the Knox County (Tenn.) Industrial School, for an "opportunity school" in Chattanooga, for the Wesley House, in Memphis, Tennessee, and other such institutions.

The teachers in these institutions gladly become volunteer workers, and, through their Bible work with the children, we reach many Bibleless homes,—how many, we shall never know.

The Cajuns

These sadly neglected people of a mongrel race now live isolated in some sections of our territory in some of the southern states. They

are the descendants of those unfortunate people whom Longfellow has made familiar to us in his tragic story of Evangeline. They are of mixed blood of Spanish, French and Indian ancestors, I presume. They are ostracized by both their white and black neighbors and neglected by the church. At present the Methodist Church is trying to do something for them, and we have been glad to supply Scriptures for this work, which is purely missionary.

The "Backwoods"

Multitudes of our own race are living isolated lives far back "in the woods," far removed not only from those things of city life that "tend to effeminate the mind," but also from religious privileges. When the Bible gets into the "backwoods," it becomes its own evangelist. The Central Agency has had many appeals, not only from the individual poor in these mountain districts, but also from schools and missions established by the several churches. Here is an appeal from a home missionary teacher of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A. She is far in the "backwoods," where she has gone at the call of need. "I find few of the people are Christians, and no Bibles in the homes or in the Sunday school recently organized. Last week I visited in a community where they had not had a religious service of any kind for six months."

Here is another appeal from a Presbyterian, U. S. A., Sunday school missionary in Tennessee. To both of these workers we sent a good supply of Bibles and Testaments.

The appeals that come to us from the individual poor are sometimes very pathetic. Here is a sample: "Dear Co. i am righting to you about a verry importem Buisness i am asking you for a Present Something i never did before i am asking you to send me a large printed testament i am 80 yr old and hant abel to work a tall and have belong to the church 50 yr & hant go not money to Buy with & would love for you to Send me a large printed testament that i can Read in."

The Testament was sent, and we hope that it has been a source of blessing to this old gentleman.

"Those That Go Down to the Sea in Ships"

As the Central Agency has very little seacoast line, there is very little opportunity to do much for sailors. But, through the Seaman's Church Institute, in Mobile, Ala., with the Rev. R. A. Pearce as chaplain, we do reach a goodly number of these that "go down to the sea in ships." For these men who come from the uttermost parts of the earth, we sent the chaplain Scriptures in the following languages:—Chinese, Danish, English, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian, and Swedish. We trust that some of these men, at least, will not only see the "works of the Lord and his wonders in the great deep," but also may come to see the "glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."

Flood Sufferers

It has been a long time since "the Flood," but the horrors of the more recent floods in the Mississippi Valley and in eastern Kentucky have not been forgotten by those who suffered. During 1928, the Central Agency ministered to many who lost all their possessions in these devastating inundations. Resident ministers in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Mississippi became volunteer workers in searching for such homes and delivering the Bibles to families that wanted them. It was no easy task these ministers performed. In the hill country of Kentucky the task was especially difficult, because the people were so widely scattered and roads almost impassable. The Rev. O. V. Caudill, Presbyterian pastor at Whitesburg, Ky., writes us that he with his coworker,—the pastor of the Methodist Church, I think,—“rode two miles and walked eight,” to find these homes and deliver the Bibles. Do not forget that this was in the winter and that they had to carry the stock of Bibles with them. Missionary heroes will not all be dead so long as these men live.

The One-cent Gospels

Many are the uses to which these little vest-pocket-size Scripture portions are being put, and the demand for them steadily increases. The Bible Society did a marvelously wise thing when it resolved on this method of “sowing the Seed.” “I can carry this in my pocket and read it on the car as I go to work,” said one poor man. Pastors are using them for Christmas remembrances to the members of their congregations, having some personal message printed on the covers. Evangelists are using them in their meetings. Personal workers are using them, to give to men as they pass by. Sunday school teachers are using them for their classes. Pastors are using them in their weekly prayer meetings, to encourage a wider reading of the Bible.

But there is still another use to which they have been put that I must mention. This “story” would not be complete if I did not mention this. A good Christian lady in Tennessee writes us ordering 600 copies of Proverbs, and adds: “I am using these as *place cards* at a dinner for three hundred.”

The Central Agency has distributed 317,954 copies of the Scripture, during 1928, in the following languages:

Albanian	Czechoslovakian	Hungarian	Ruthenian
Arabic	Danish	Icelandic	Serbian
Armenian	Dutch	Italian	Slovak
Armeno-Turkish	English	Japanese	Slovenian
Bulgarian	Esperanto	Latin	Spanish
Chinese:	Finnish	Lettish	Swedish
Wenli-Union	Flemish	Lithuanian	Syriac
Version	French	Norwegian	Turkish
Canton Colloquial	German	Polish	Urdu
Mandarin-Union	Greek	Portuguese	Welsh
Version	Hawaiian	Roumanian	Yiddish
Croatian	Hebrew	Russian	

And there is no place in America where all these books could be had for this mission work, except from the American Bible Society, the handmaiden of the church.

NORTHWESTERN AGENCY

The Northwestern Agency was established in 1906. The field covered includes the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri (excepting Kansas City), North Dakota, and South Dakota. The Rev. J. L. McLaughlin, D.D., is Agency Secretary, 35 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill.

The circulation for 1928 was 34,694 Bibles, 64,105 Testaments, and 950,068 portions, making a total of 1,048,867 volumes. The circulation of the Agency since 1906 is 7,368,625 volumes. The distribution in 1923 was carried on by 2 colporteurs, 9 correspondents, and 1 volunteer.



ELDOM does a worker have opportunity to look at his work from the other side of the world. All who read this report will enjoy the result of such an experience and have opportunity to receive a thrill and catch a vision. It is a tremendous field in area, in population, in variety, in importance, which the report presents. Why the Secretary writes with many superlatives is not difficult to understand; and, if some are excessive, they may be excused; for it is only a matter of proportion, and not a question of fact. The report is the first to record a circulation of over one million volumes in a year by this Agency and by any Home Agency. The enthusiasm for methods and workers and results appears well based. The pages not only recount noteworthy achievements, but also call out "Go thou and do likewise."

As this report goes to the Home Office, the Northwestern Agency Secretary is enjoying the tropical breezes and the old-time friends in Manila, where he served for twenty most happy and enjoyable years. Far from the snowy blasts of winter as it grips the northwestern area at close of the year, the renewal of former friendships, and the reexperiencing of the delights of this tropic land under the benign protection of Uncle Sam in these far-off seas, is an experience beyond the power of words to express. One is tempted to give a report on the victories of the gospel as viewed from thirty years ago, when the Bible was a closed book in these fair islands of the Pacific, or to attempt to offer praise for the splendid services of our Secretary of the Philippine Islands Agency. However, I am reminded that this is a report of the work of the American Bible Society for the Northwestern Agency for the year just closed, and not for this fascinating foreign field. It may be a little less spectacular, a little more prosy, as

intimate things are apt to become more or less commonplace, but it is none the less compelling and interesting.

"Perspective Lends Enchantment"

In this case at least, the perspective does give a new view of the field and of the work. In the office one is apt to have the larger view clouded or befogged by the petty details of daily life. The irritating letter in the morning's mail or the pestiferous customer or solicitor may, more often than we imagine, furnish cause for "starting the day wrong." From this distance those details are unseen and unfelt.

From a distance of 12,000 miles away, we acquire a larger vision of the nine states composing the Northwestern Agency. We realize, as we can not close at hand, the 23,000,000 people to whom we are called to minister in the furnishing of the Scriptures. We behold them a most cosmopolitan company, representing very many known languages and tongues and filling every phase of economic life from the millionaire capitalist to the down-and-outer in the "flop house" of the great city. Each class presents a problem in itself, and every individual a special aspect of the case, till it challenges the ingenuity and wisdom of the best, to meet this problem of the injecting of the Word of God into the public and private lives of the rank and file of this great company. Analyses and surveys utterly fail, and fall down completely when we undertake to solve this problem confronting the work of the Bible distribution in such an area. It reduces itself simply and purely to the problem of giving the Living Word through the printed page to the teeming multitudes through the media of human agencies. This is the story of the report.

"The Regions Beyond"

In the history of the Bible Society work, no small charm has gathered around the stories of the carrying of the printed books to those who, in their pioneer adventures, have found themselves beyond the influences of church or organized religious services. "The regions beyond" have always possessed a fascination for the adventurous spirits of men, and the stories of the conquering of these regions have been the most thrilling in our country's history. But these "regions beyond" have very largely disappeared from our midst, and even the frontiers know them no more, save in the rarest instances.

The "range parishes" in the burnt-over districts of the northern peninsulas still present problems of hardships for the faithful missionaries who are striving to bring the comforts of the gospel, spoken and printed, to those hapless or willing settlers who are left in these regions. It has been a pleasure to cooperate with these hardy workers this past year.

The prairie settlers are still with us in the vast stretches of the Dakotas; but the automobile has conquered distances, and now the

radio has overcome the silence of isolation; so, overnight, the conditions that surrounded these distant settlers have been changed. All this only makes the need more imperative and present.

Small farmers in the Ozarks and on the western prairies are brought into touch with their spiritual needs as life has speeded up tremendously for them in these last few years.

So each one more and more is being brought into the close contact with life, and the "regions beyond" are contracting more and more every day; but the needs for the Living Word are greater now than ever before, to keep pace with the materialistic progress of the day.

Great Cities

As the center of population is advancing westward and now is in the very center of this area, great cities of the country are necessarily here located.

Chicago is, of course, the dominant city of the area, with its four and a half millions of people living within metropolitan limits. It is destined to become the great metropolis of the country, if not of the world. Its growth is phenomenal, and the problems presented by the complexity of population are staggering.

Detroit is the leading frontier city of America. Only a few short years ago, these barren plains and swamps gave little suggestion of the gigantic enterprises that have built up this marvel city by the straits. An overwhelming portion of the population of Detroit is directly foreign or of foreign extraction not far remote. Never before in any other place has there been such extreme industrialization of masses as is to be found in the automobile industry. Men almost seem to be born destined to pass their days and close their careers doing but one thing in life—perhaps the polishing of a certain type of nut, or the fitting of a washer to a bolt as it passes on a movable band. This stultifying repetition of a simple action can be met only by an awakening and a training of the soul that alone can lift above menial life.

So we might speak of Minneapolis, Duluth, St. Louis, Indianapolis, and scores of only slightly lesser cities, which are presenting problems that are simply staggering. They challenge the combined forces for righteousness as never before. With all these we are striving to cooperate that, in all that is being done or may be done, the Scriptures may be at the heart and center; for, truly, they alone can lead to the Light that lighteth the world, and direct us out of the mazes of difficulties that surround us in this materialistic age.

Agencies for Righteousness

While they that are against us are many, yet our hearts are cheered and our courage strengthened by the hosts of the powers for righteousness that exist and are operative throughout this area. Seldom before

have they been so active or so well organized. The challenge of the hour has been accepted and is being met. There are about 18,000 organized churches within the limits of our field. There is a goodly host of missions, homes of various kinds, and numberless agencies for the meeting of these problems and the uplift of society.

In regard to all of these we have consistently followed the plan proved in the preceding year; namely, the hearty cooperation with each and every one of these organizations so far as possible, that their labors may be built around the Word. With our high mark for 1927 of 976,414 volumes before us, we have sought steadfastly during the year to advance even farther, not for mere numbers' sake, but in order nearer and nearer to meet the obligations and responsibilities of the area.

The Goal of a Million

With our goal as a million, we report the circulation for the year of 3,694 Bibles, 64,105 Testaments, and 950,068 portions, making a grand total of 1,048,867 volumes. These have been in 64 different languages, as follows:—

Albanian	Danish	Ilocano	Russian
Arabic	Dutch	Irish	Ruthenian
Arapahoe	English	Italian	(Ukrainian)
Armenian, Ancient	Esperanto	Japanese	Serbian
Armenian, Modern	Estonian	Korean	Slavic
Benga	Finnish	Latin	Slovak
Bulgarian	Flemish	Lettish	Slovenian
Bulu	French	Lithuanian	Spanish
Chinese:	Gaelic	Malay	Swedish
Mandarin, Peking	German	Muskogee	Syriac, Ancient
Mandarin, Phonetic	German, Low	Norwegian, Gothic	Syriac, Modern
Wenli, Easy	Greek, Ancient	Norwegian, Roman	Tagalog
Canton Coll.	Greek, Modern	Ojibwa	Turkish:
Choctaw	Hawaiian	Persian	Armenian
Croatian	Hebrew	Polish	Welsh
Czechoslovakian	Hungarian	Portuguese	Yiddish
Dakota	Icelandic	Roumanian	

The Passing of the Colporteur

Regret it as we may, think about it as we please, but the fact remains that the time-honored and picturesque colporteur is more and more coming to be a character of the past. For economic, social, and other reasons, he has almost entirely disappeared from our midst, or carries on his labors in a very different manner from the stereotyped manner of earlier days.

The enormously increased cost of living and operating expenses makes it impossible to maintain a corps of colporteurs on the meager apportionment of funds available for the operation of the Agency. Then, again, the complexities of modern life make it extremely difficult for even trained colporteurs to gain access to homes, save in the more distant rural communities. The increased facilities of the mail service, the multiplicity of printed matter and unlimited broadcasting on every conceivable subject make the colporteur more unwelcome, excepting as a purely religious worker; whereas, in former times, he was welcomed for hospitality's sake, and for himself alone.

Only a few are still in the service of the Agency:—

Mr. Neil Love, our veteran distributor of the Scriptures, together with his estimable wife, has been diligent in season and out of season in southern Michigan cities, centering at Galesburg. Brother Love possesses a rich heritage of memories of many long years of service in the Bible Society, and his love for the work is just as keen today as ever. He has a large host of friends in the gospel in a half a dozen states.

The Rev. E. W. Jennett's death early in the year closed out thirty-five years of most picturesque and romantic service in the giving of the Bible to the world. He, too, had worked in half a dozen states; but in these later years the grip of the great city of Detroit held him to the task there. The need for a depository for Scriptures led him to open and maintain such a place, which was well known by the pastors and Christian workers in Detroit, and his death was a great blow to our work and to the community.

Mr. Victor Bjorklund took over the depository in Minneapolis from the Northwestern Missionary Training School. Mr. Bjorklund's Nordic characteristics give him close contacts with the large Norwegian and Swedish constituencies, especially in that rapidly growing metropolis and center. Apart from supplying the local demand for the Scriptures, Mr. Bjorklund has been and is active in missionary services in the city, and therein supplies large numbers of the Scriptures.

Mr. Luther Blackshare is one of the devoted lovers of the Bible in the far-off Ozarks—if any place can be called “far-off” in these days of the automobile and rapid transportation facilities. Brother Blackshare devotes his summers to his farm work, and in the late fall and winter cranks up his Ford and takes to the road, with a goodly supply of Bibles for those in the more distant points who do not have the privileges of the closer contacts with such things. His is a service of love and as such is full of interest and inspiration.

Miss Blanche Jameson was mentioned in our last year's report as the invalid, paralytic, blind shut-in who is doing so much for the spread of the gospel of Good News. With her handicaps of pain and suffering and physical weaknesses, she puts many of us to shame when we consider how much she is doing. She has supplied every family in her township with at least a portion of the Scriptures, and has extended her services to a much-wider range, even to the lands beyond the seas. When we consider that her work is done, oftentimes in the middle of the night in her lonesome and dark hours, through messages written in the midst of suffering and pain, yet all breathing such a spirit of hope and cheer and trust as to be impelling, we can but marvel at the grace that is hers, and be wonderfully encouraged and inspired by her example.

We might go on mentioning one after another of those who have assisted; for we have a great army of

Volunteer Workers

to whose labors and services must be given much of the credit for the unusually large circulation for the year.

Early in the year, we circularized some 10,000 of the pastors and church workers within the bounds of the Agency, bringing to their attention the possibilities in a wide distribution of the Scriptures as a basis for their local endeavors. A large number of these pastors, Sunday-school superintendents, mission workers, Bible Class leaders and welfare workers have graciously responded, and through their efforts much of our distribution has been secured. Time and space will not permit mention of their names nor the places of their work, nor would many relish such publicity; for they have desired to work quietly and unknown. This is all the more to their credit, that they have done so.

Many of these have worked altogether independently, using their own methods to meet the needs of their community; others have sought advice and direction from us as to methods.

Chicago Depository

Excessive rentals in the Loop district in Chicago make it prohibitive to maintain a street floor store, such as the Bible Society should have. However, since the bookstores, the department stores, and now the "five-and-ten" stores are carrying certain kinds of the Scripture editions, the opportunity for the public to secure needed volumes is at least partially met.

Our depository is on the seventeenth floor of the Pure Oil Building at 35 East Wacker Drive. Although in rather cramped quarters owing to high cost of rents, we here maintain, in conjunction with the stock of the Chicago Bible Society, what is probably the largest variety of Scriptures to be found in any one place in the country. We have in stock over 1,800 different kinds of Scriptures, in different languages, bindings, types, etc. From here we have launched a publicity propaganda which has caught the imagination and attention of most of our pastoral constituency, and about 4,000 members of it have made use of our privileges more or less during the year.

This added to increased correspondence and office details makes a burden almost more than we can carry. The saturation point has about been reached; it is either cease to expand or add to the office force, in order to be able to take care of the work.

Seed by the Wayside

"Have you one of those books in Croatian?" We were in the midst of a street meeting on one of Chicago's busiest corners. Dr. Ernest F. Bell, Chicago's most famous minister of the gospel to the unchurched,—now just called up higher for his reward,—had just supplied an Italian with a copy of a Gospel, making the thirteenth language to be used in that one service that evening. This appeal came

from a homesick-looking young man, who edged his way in through the crowd. Digging into his ever-ready and well-stocked Bible bag, our sainted friend was able to supply this need. We have diligently sought to keep each open-air preacher supplied with the Gospels so far as possible, and the splendid results of the summer open-air evangelistic campaign have been largely due to this widespread circulation of the Scriptures.

Midst the Roar of City Traffic

For three years now the Central "Y" has held Monday noonday open-air meetings in the Arcade near their building, in the very midst of the Loop district of Chicago. It has been the rich fortune of the Agency Secretary to address this passing throng on several occasions. Perhaps no other experience can quite equal this. With the rushing throngs at the noonday hour, the roar of the city traffic, the hum of business all around, one must, indeed, be quick to catch the throng, or all is lost. "Messages" may fall flat, be meaningless; but we have never failed to meet a quick response when we tie the message directly to the printed message, and supplies of Gospels for distribution are always quickly snatched up.

Subdepositories

Detroit. Following the death of Mr. Jennett, very satisfactory arrangements have been made with Mr. W. T. McLean, of the Central Bible, Book and Tract Depot, to carry a rather complete stock of our missionary editions of the Scriptures. This enables the Christian workers of Detroit to have a place where they can secure their stocks at quickest time and lowest rates. Mr. McLean is a devoted and enthusiastic Christian worker, and eminently fitted to represent the work of the Society in Detroit.

Duluth. The Society is very fortunate in having Mr. W. L. Smithies, secretary of the Federation of Churches, carry a stock of our Scriptures in his offices in the Y. M. C. A. in Duluth. Mr. Smithies' contact with the churches and pastors there gives us a very strategic position in Duluth, and Mr. Smithies is rendering very unselfish and devoted service in the circulation of the Word in his city.

Minneapolis. We have decreased our stock in the Minneapolis depository, this being made possible by the increased postal facilities between Chicago and Minneapolis and the ease with which mail orders may be supplied. Mr. Victor Bjorklund starts out the new year with enlarged plans for Bibleizing the Twin Cities, and with his former experience as a guide, and his zeal for the Master as his inspiration, the omen for the future is bright indeed.

We carry ever before us the extreme need for a depository in the cities of St. Louis, Des Moines, and Indianapolis particularly; but as yet we have been unable to work out the necessary details of personnel, place and security. We trust these places at least may be soon

supplied with sufficient stocks of books to supply local and immediate needs.

"No Place Where a Bible Can Be Secured!"

Scarcely a day goes by but that we receive one or several letters bearing the complaint: "What is the matter with the Bible Society? There isn't a place in this city (or town) where a Bible can be purchased. Why don't you maintain a depository of some sort here?" Manifestly it would be physically impossible for the Society to maintain such a depository in each and every center. Not only would it be economically impossible, but experience has proven the unwisdom of so operating, excepting in very unusual and particular circumstances.

But we do not evade the issue; on the other hand, we are trying energetically to meet this very need. We have urged upon each and every pastor the equal importance and opportunity for placing the printed Word along with the preaching of the Word. We have co-operated with a number of churches in the securing of a stock of Scriptures which they advertise in their church bulletins and by public announcements, that their communities may know they dispense the printed as well as the preached Word. Apart from the stock actually in hand, their constituency is advised of our service, that they may no longer say they know not where Bibles may be secured. Most encouraging beginnings along this line have been made; but the field is almost unlimited, and only lack of means will prevent us from very materially increasing this opportunity for the Society.

The Radio

The Northwestern Agency does not maintain regular Scripture reading over the air routes, but it cooperates from time to time with the Y. M. C. A., the mission stations, and the commercial companies in the same.

More and more distinctly religious materials are placed on the air, till one of the prominent directors of radio in Chicago recently informed us that, counting the total of radio programs thrown out from Chicago stations, at least one-fifteenth of the material was distinctly religious. This is a remarkable proportion and speaks well for the demands of the listening public. The director of one of the principal stations recently proffered the information that they counted the daily devotions from their stations as the best part of the day's work. That, if they had to give up everything else, they would count the morning devotions as the best. The Secretary of this Agency recently conducted these devotions for five consecutive mornings. Radio has become so common that we scarcely expect any one to "write in" any more; and, besides, it was just before the daylight saving was set aside for the rest of the year; so it was very early and, as we climbed to that lone padded room and talked into that unresponsive "mike," we wondered if any one was listening in at that hour. It quite tested our inspira-

tional emotions, but we were not a little amazed the next day to receive almost 200 letters from listeners in, scattered over wide areas and all writing enthusiastically of the "devotions," saying they could scarcely begin the day aright without it.

Grants

Never before have we received so many or such requests for grants of Scriptures. So far as individual requests are concerned,—and we receive them almost daily in the mail,—we usually endeavor to investigate each case, through some local pastor or religious worker, and supply the need through them or in cooperation with them, as the case might be.

Then, apart from the individual requests, we have been fairly deluged with requests from mission and welfare workers, for grants in large numbers. Nothing else hurts so much as having to turn a deaf ear to such worth-while requests, and say that we simply can not supply them for sheer lack of funds. In so far as we have been able, we have supplied these requests. In Chicago alone, last year we made full or partial grants, in response to requests, to 59 different institutions and to 107 individuals, to the total of \$1,912.39 worth of Scriptures. We have tried to be as generous to workers outside of the city of Chicago; but at every turn we have faced the lack of funds and been forced to curtail the grants that the Society should have been able to make.

"In Prison and Ye Visited Me"

Without undertaking to analyze the why of the conditions, the fact remains that our state and local prisons are fuller now of convicts than ever before. In Joliet alone, there are nearly 4,000 prisoners crowded into quarters constructed for scarcely more than half that number. Like conditions exist in scores of other jails. And the pitiful thing about it, or one of the most pitiful things, is the strikingly decreased age of the average prisoner. No longer is it the old, hardened criminal, but our jails are being filled with the youths of the land—mere boys as it were. Many of them land there after their first attempt on the highway of crime. They are deeply penitent and chagrined and susceptible. Surely these, if any and ever, should be furnished with a copy of the Word, that, in their remorse and shame and grief, they may there discover a ray of hope and light. We could profitably invest every cent of our next year's appropriation for Bibles for this very purpose.

During the year we placed 400 Bibles in the Joliet penitentiary—a mere beginning to what we should do. We also supplied several hundred New Testaments; but the great need is for the complete Bibles. We also supplied 400 Bibles for the St. Charles School for Boys, where some 1,200 boys have been committed by the courts for more wholesome surroundings and removal from their crime surroundings. Space

should be provided to mention the splendid work of Miss N. Scott, a Chicago school-teacher, who for nine years has made the long journey out to St. Charles every single Sunday without an exception, just to be with her "boys" in Sunday-school and church services. Who can calculate the number of boys who have gone out from under her influence during these years, who look back to her loving service as a real spring of hope and an incentive for right living? This is the sort of service that counts, and when she comes in and says she needs another 50 or 100 Bibles, the Society would be derelict to its very principles of existence, were we to have to say her nay.

Naval and Military Training Stations

Perhaps few realize that here, in this far inland station on the shores of Lake Michigan, Uncle Sam maintains his largest naval training station. From here the marines and the sailors are sent out to the far ends of the earth, as it is the finishing station for our naval boys.

Chaplain T. Thompson informs us that he needs 1,500 New Testaments every month, in order to supply the requests of the boys for one of the little books for his kit. Somehow, as they finish their training and start out for active service, they know not where,—perhaps in the jungles of Nicaragua or to far-off China,—these boys are more soberly imbued with something of the spirit that sent our boys overseas in 1918, and almost to a man when the opportunity is given, ask for a New Testament to take along. Our meager means would not allow us even to touch the edges of this need, but the Home Office has come to our rescue, and during the last year we have tried to take care of the needs as the good chaplain has presented them to us.

The same is true about the military camps, though we have undertaken more largely to supply them from our area, since they are not so numerous as the navy boys.

The Neighborhood Canvass

We confess to having become thoroughly convinced, not to say obsessed, with the idea that the neighborhood canvass is *the* one means of thorough work in getting the Scriptures into the hands of the people. It is the local church assuming the responsibility for its neighborhood, and, if it does not, we scarcely see any reason for its existence at all.

A few weeks ago, we assisted in such a church here in Chicago. As a general plan, though local conditions might probably necessitate adjustments in most of cases, we gave on Friday night an illustrated lecture on the romance of giving the Bible to the world. The young people of the church had assumed the advertising for the meeting, had announced it, and that afternoon had distributed handbills from house to house in the neighborhood. Result: a fair audience and an enthusiasm already created for the enterprise. Then, Saturday afternoon, a conference of workers on the problems of the church, individual efforts, place of the Bible in the evangelizing of the neighborhood, etc. Sun-

day morning a sermon by the pastor on "The Book of Books"; Sunday-afternoon, the neighborhood canvass. A group of the young people—quite a few older ones also assisting—went out two and two, carrying some Gospels and a few Testaments and a Bible or so. They made a rather careful canvass, announcing that they came from the church, inviting the folks to come therein, and leaving a Gospel and in some cases a Testament or a Bible. Result: several of the young people were thrilled by the response that inevitably comes from performing a definite, active service for the Lord, and the fact that "not one single person repulsed me, and many were glad to have had us come." That night, a short illustrated lecture or sermonette on "A Visit to Jerusalem"; then a definite evangelistic appeal—with the result that two young people, one man and one woman (the same young woman who had been so blessed in the Scripture distribution) gave their hearts and pledged their lives to the Master. This in response to a definite appeal for a decision. The results stimulated the entire church beyond estimates, and the following week an almost old-fashioned revival "broke out," as the members were thrilled into action "to win souls for Christ." Less than a month after our "Bible revival" there, thirty-three new members were added to that church on confession of faith. Just one church's experience, but it might be multiplied a thousand times; for God is the same yesterday, today and forever, and he stands ready, and the Holy Spirit is yearning with utterings too great to be uttered. It only remains for the human element to get into line, and we feel that in just this sort of program, there lies a great field yet almost unexplored. We are glad to report that quite a large number of churches in this area have undertaken something of the sort during the year. We are quite convinced that a definite appropriation and expenditure for just this phase of the work would be well worth while.

Bible Society Lectures

More and more during the past year we have encountered a returning request for the use of the lantern slide lecture. While the set we now have has its limitations, and is somewhat out of date, yet Bible work is Bible work regardless of chronology, and the lecture we now have has not a few good points and usually meets with fair commendation from the users. We secured from the Home Office an additional set of the slides, and both sets have been fairly busy during the year.

The Silent Salesman

About one hundred of the "silent salesman" boxes have been placed, most of them within the confines of Chicago, and most of these inside of church buildings or in Sunday-school buildings. It has been our hope that this self-service box might find a large placement in more public places—in railway stations, ticket offices, drug stores, etc. But up to the present only a few have been so located. It is trusting the

public to deposit the cost of the book taken, and almost without exception the confidence has proven to be well placed. In nearly every instance when the books have been removed and the little money chest opened, more money has been found in the chest than the total cost of the volumes. It is only a means to an end; but it allows a church, a Bible Class, or a missionary organization to provide, at a very small initial outlay, against that criticism of "there is no place in this community where Scriptures can be bought." The scheme meets with a favorable reaction wherever it is presented, and we would that we might be able to place one in each church center throughout the Agency. It would be a splendid investment for the Master's cause.

The Bible and the Revival

We have consistently urged upon pastors and evangelists the larger use of the Scripture reading in evangelistic efforts. Not a few have so responded. Without a single exception, the report has been that where a systematic daily reading has been secured in the community, it has led to an immediate interest in the evangelistic services, and usually a quick response to their appeal. The Rev. C. H. Wieand, a very successful evangelist, bases his entire program upon such a simultaneous reading, and says he has never before been able to create such a general and lively interest in any other way. His plan is to secure cooperation of the churches, have each one distribute a large number of a certain Gospel, using our penny portions for that purpose, start a city-wide chapter-a-day reading, and then come together for intensive study and the application of the lessons—and this the Holy Spirit uses most successfully in the creating of an interest and securing a response to the message. It is our purpose more and more to extend this feature of the work.

Excerpts from Our Mail Bag

"Never in all my thirty years of service for the cause, have I found it so difficult to sell Bibles as right now. People have plenty of money for pleasures, for amusements, for everything that pertains to self, but they do not seem to have money for Bibles."

* * *

"Apart from all theories of inspiration or interpretation, the man or woman who does not know his Bible is not educated. We must be at home with its language. We must be acquainted with its thought. And we aren't. I think I know three practical reasons why we are not, and I would like to suggest them:

"First—We do not choose Bibles published in a readable form. We would read it more if we were wiser in selecting readable Bibles.

"Secondly—We do not know where to begin or how to read it. We would read our Bibles more if some one would tell us where to start.

"Thirdly—We just don't! We never get started. This may be the biggest reason of all."

"Yesterday afternoon we had one of the surprises of our life. Replying to a tap at our door, an old friend and his wife confronted me, introducing a stranger and his wife in the person of the pastor of the —— Church, who came out at your request to bring the Bible. We hereby thank you for the copy of the Bible, and hope we will still find new truths in it. It is plain print, neat, and light. Really I did not feel able to buy a Bible, and this will answer all necessary purposes. I have an invalid wife, whom I must care for, myself being near seventy-nine, and wife seventy-seven. So, you see, our earning capacity is gone. I thank you."

* * *

"One little German girl, whose father had bought a 45-cent Bible, asked me where the Lord's Prayer was to be found. I could not remember at the moment, and she seemed disappointed. Going on down the street, I sat down on a doorstep and found the place in my Testament, and when I had found it, I went back and told the little girl where she could find the Lord's Prayer. She was greatly pleased." Just an incident in the day's work of a colporteur.

* * *

"I am writing to thank you for the generous supply of Scripture portions you so kindly sent. We will use some of them in the hospital; they are so light and handy for a sick person to hold. They will be greatly appreciated by such."

* * *

"How I wish it were possible to donate one hundred dollars toward the support of that wonderful organization—the American Bible Society. But we are not too poor to pray."

* * *

"Send at once the 1,000 copies of the Gospel of Matthew. The ministerial association of our city is sponsoring the movement. We have the cooperation of the schools. About 700 children will be reached this way. The teachers have promised to assist us."

* * *

"The enclosed (an inscribed Book of Proverbs) is what we did here. Took 900 to the E. S. High School and 675 to the W. S. High School. I personally got the good will and permission of the superintendent and the principals long time before." (The handsome, attractive little volumes were eagerly sought after by the pupils in the high schools.)

* * *

"Enclosed find check for Bible received. I have quite a good-sized library, but this is the best printed book in it. You may well feel proud of putting out such a book, so satisfactory in type, paper, printing, and binding."

* * *

"I want to thank you for your promptness. (In sending supply of Gospels.—Secretary.) I am using the booklets as silent reading

during the devotional period in the senior high school. This feature is an experiment with me." (Later letter tells of encouraging results.)

* * *

"I can never thank you enough for what you did for my husband. For several months his business affairs had been going wrong, and he was constantly irritated; and, do the best we could at home, we could not seem to touch him. Many a time I feared my prayers were altogether unavailing, but we could do no more than cling to the One who never fails. My husband began drinking to drown his troubles. In a fit of temper he left us, saying he never would return. He went to Chicago, and only an hour or so after arriving in that great city, he was attracted by your street service and stopped long enough to be given one of the little copies of the Gospel of John. Instead of going on to some place of questionable amusement as he had planned, he went to a hotel room and read the Gospel from cover to cover. He then reread it, and whether our feeble prayers helped or not, I do not know; for we were praying for him at that very minute in our little home 500 miles away. Anyway he went down on his knees in that hotel room, all alone with God, and "came to himself" most gloriously. The burden of despair rolled away, and he caught the next train back home and to us. I need not tell you of the happy reunion. It is now three weeks since he returned: his business affairs are straightened out, and we are so happy. I could not resist the desire to write and thank you for that message and for giving him that book. You don't know him. You did not even speak to him personally, but the Spirit was with you and the message. God bless you for your noble service."

Our Daily Mail

During the past year we have tried to keep our multigraph busy and, through that medium, reach an ever-increasing number of the pastors and other Christian workers throughout the Agency. The results have even exceeded our expectations. From a daily mail of about 35 letters a day, three years ago, our genial mailman now brings us as high as 200 letters some days, and during all the rush season an average of 150 to 175. From these we could give testimonials almost without number, of the cordial sympathy with the work of the Bible Society and the conquests of the Word when untrammelled by theological dogmas of interpretations. Truly it is quicker than a two-edged sword, and it can mark the cleavage that should prevail between right and wrong, between the tendency to crime and the social and moral uplift of a people. To this end we devoutly set our faces and dedicate our strength and resources—the cultivating of close and vital relations with every Christian worker within the bounds of the Agency, and the injecting of the Word of God into the public and private life of the people.

SOUTHWESTERN AGENCY

The Southwestern Agency was established in 1907. Its field includes the states of Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Oklahoma. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. J. J. Morgan, 905 Main Street, Dallas, Texas. The circulation for the year ending December 31, 1928, was 13,873 Bibles, 44,611 Testaments, and 415,688 portions, making a total of 474,172 volumes. The total circulation since 1907 is 3,442,068 volumes. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 9 colporteurs, 43 correspondents, and 158 volunteers.



THE fuller story of the Mississippi flood of 1927 comes into the report for 1928. Its extent, its consequences, its opportunity for service by the Bible Society, and some fruit, are set forth with sympathy. Other needs and other work, however, were not neglected. The use of the radio by several men's Bible Classes in the daily Bible reading campaign, and the selling of Bibles by radio, herein reported, are interesting for their results as much as for their novelty. The influence alike of a consecrated woman and a voiceless gospel are some of the illustrations which are stimulating to faith and devotion. And the steady advance in the circulation of the Scriptures during the twenty-one years of activity of the Agency, from 11,077 volumes in 1908 to 474,172 in 1928, is strikingly recorded and justly magnified.

The Southwestern Agency began history in the year 1907, making its first report in 1908. Only once has there been a halt in the steady advance in the circulation of Scriptures, and that came at the close of the world war. During that period there was an abnormal distribution of khaki Testaments; but, after the war, the only khaki Testaments cared for were those which the "boys" brought home with them from "over there," baptized, many of them, in a never-to-be-forgotten experience and treasured as sacred memorials.

Then came the slump in gifts to the Society, and a slump in gifts always means a slump in Bible distribution. Retrenchment was the order of the day. Colporteurs were dismissed, and grants of Scriptures cut in half. Not until Christian America faced anew her worldwide missionary obligation, did we regain our balance and move forward again. It may be interesting to look at the record.

Twenty-one Years of Distribution

<i>Year</i>	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Total</i>
1908.....	3,097	4,102	3,878	11,077
1909.....	6,356	8,784	10,849	26,129
1910.....	7,037	10,658	12,258	29,953
1911.....	12,268	17,558	12,832	42,650
1912.....	11,815	23,395	21,370	56,580
1913.....	19,945	35,605	34,585	90,135
1914.....	18,951	30,962	43,401	93,314
1915.....	14,228	29,904	59,861	103,993
1916.....	10,598	48,567	93,890	153,055
1917.....	11,568	122,795	87,068	221,443
1918.....	9,343	42,067	26,459	77,869
1919.....	12,889	26,507	29,667	69,163
1920.....	16,608	22,281	42,312	81,201
1921.....	18,913	41,424	63,049	123,386
1922.....	21,705	32,814	57,808	112,327
1923.....	21,868	25,832	177,462	225,162
1924.....	21,733	22,136	249,880	293,749
1925.....	18,409	25,152	294,527	338,088
1926.....	17,344	34,362	306,297	358,003
1927.....	17,355	37,626	397,944	452,925
1928.....	13,873	44,611	415,688	474,172

The Field

The thing that impresses us most about our field is the bigness of it. It is nearly 1,200 miles by rail from New Orleans on the east to El Paso on the far west, and it is almost as far from our northern boundary to Brownsville, Texas, our southern extremity. When one makes his way across the Texas plains, and through some of our 100,000-acre ranches, the natural question arises, "Where do all your Bibles go?" But we have something else in our field besides "ranchos." We have a population estimated at twelve million souls.

New Orleans claims nearly a half million; while Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio are fast approaching the 300,000 mark. (I dare not say which city is ahead in the race, but it is safe to say that all three cities will very soon reach this goal.) Then come the smaller cities, boasting of twenty-five, fifty, one hundred, and two hundred thousand population—all of them centers of rich farm sections, rapidly developing in every way. Add in our mountains, the Mississippi Valley land, mining districts, oil fields, winter garden irrigated vegetable and fruit farms along the Rio Grande, and our Gulf coast with its deep water ports, one of them second only to New York in exports, and you have the picture of our field, every bit of it alive with people who need the Book. And therein lies the real bigness of our field—not in its acres, nor its wealth of oil, etc., but in its *people*. They need the Book!

Scriptures Distributed in 34 Languages

Our greatest concern is for those who speak a foreign tongue, and to whom, for the most part, the Bible is an unknown book. In this group we include 1,000,000 Mexicans, 100,000 Indians, 240,000 French, 50,000 Italians, 40,000 Slavs, and many others in smaller numbers. It is gratifying to know that, in the course of our regular work, we actually distributed during the year Scriptures in 34 languages. They are as follows:

Arabic	Chinese: Wenli	French	Latin	Russian
Armenian	Choctaw	German	Muskogee	Ruthenian
Bulgarian	Czechoslovakian	Greek	Norwegian	Samogitian
Cherokee	Danish	Hebrew	Pangasinan	Slovak
Chinese:	Dutch	Hungarian	Polish	Spanish
Canton Coll.	English	Italian	Portuguese	Swedish
Mandarin	Esperanto	Japanese	Roumanian	Syriac, Ancient

30,000 Volumes Go to Mexicans

The tide of Mexican immigration is swelling to unknown proportions. Ignorant, poverty-stricken, disheartened Mexicans are pouring into the Southwest in such numbers that they become a serious problem, both to church and state. They are migratory in their habits, moving first into the northern and eastern sections of our Agency to harvest the cotton crop, and then back again to their favorite "little Mexicos" in southwest Texas, to harvest the truck and fruit crops during the winter season. They are only beginning to go to school. They are only beginning to make homes in anyone place long enough to think of educating their children; and yet they like to go to church and are always eager to hear the Word and to read it. Our little penny Gospels in Spanish have proved untold blessings, "silent missionaries," frequently resulting in the establishment of missions at the various points of concentration; and when the Mexican becomes established in some Protestant church, he wants more than just this portion, more than the "crumb"; he wants the whole Bible, and will save his pennies to buy an attractive copy bound in leather or morocco.

A survey of our files shows a distribution of at least 30,000 volumes of Scripture in Spanish during the past year.

The 1928 Flood Campaign

The outstanding feature of our 1928 program was the effort to minister to flood sufferers in the Mississippi Valley. The 50,000 Gospels distributed in 1927 when the flood was at its height, was what might be called a "first aid." It was when these disheartened, impoverished people turned back to their devastated homes and villages, that we went to work systematically in an effort to place Bibles in every home and church where copies of the Book had been lost or destroyed by water and mud.

Headquarters to the Rescue

Such an undertaking overwhelmed us! Our Agency appropriation could not possibly meet the emergency, and we appealed to Headquarters. The generous, ready response that came from the officials at the old-fashioned, red brick Bible House at Astor Place, New York City, saved the day.

A special edition of a small family Bible was prepared and promptly shipped to our Dallas depository, to be donated outright in homes where such a book was needed. For Sunday schools and children other books were given. This distribution of Scriptures came

like manna from heaven to the spiritually starved, discouraged people.

The total distribution during our entire campaign among flood sufferers was as follows: 2,003 Bibles, 7,141 Testaments, and 35,170 portions.

The Method of Distribution

We were fortunate in being able to call on our two faithful sub-Agents for the states of Arkansas and Louisiana, Mr. G. A. Perkins, of New Orleans, and the Rev. D. H. Colquette, of Little Rock. Both these men maintain Bible depositories at these respective cities, and both have been long in the service of the American Bible Society.

Our plan of operation was for these men to visit every community in the flood area, each in his own state, call together the pastors, school superintendents, and town officials for a conference, at which the American Bible Society's proposal to supply Bibles was outlined. Committees were appointed to assist in making a survey of Bible needs in the community, at the conclusion of which a report was sent to this office with a specific application for a donation of Scriptures.

A Really Big Piece of Work

We fully realize that many worthy needs were overlooked; but that our plans in the main succeeded in a very gratifying manner, is indicated from the words of appreciation which we have in our files, from the pastors and other leaders in the communities thus served by the Society.

At one of the annual Methodist conferences which we attended last fall in Oklahoma, it happened that the general secretary of home missions followed us on the program, and in his address he paid high tribute to the American Bible Society for its service in the Mississippi flood area. When I thanked him for this statement, he said: "I am saying this everywhere I go. Protestant churches are all greatly indebted to the American Bible Society for this really big piece of work."

We longed actually to *feel* the facts as to conditions in the flood area. We wanted to know them first hand, and, with this in view, we made a tour which was quite extensive and convincing.

A most remarkable fact in connection with the flood was that on the lowest reaches of the high water,—for instance at Poydras, where the levee was dynamited to save the city of New Orleans,—the terrific onslaught of the water ploughed six to eight feet through a forest, digging up the earth and casting it upon the richly growing crops beyond, leaving a three to five foot layer of acrid sediment upon them in which no good green thing would grow, and thus making the once fertile fields as barren as a desert.

Entire Farm Washed Away

The general rule is that an overflow enriches the land with the river silt deposit; and, of course, this was true in many cases here in

the Mississippi flood area; but, that it was not true everywhere, let us give you another instance. In northern Louisiana, at Tallulah, we were shown where an entire farm had been literally washed away. Fortunately, the soil was deep enough and rich enough to start business again; but it was on a level three feet lower than formerly, and, of course, there was considerable expense in levelling the soil and rebuilding the rent houses. A break in the levee was the cause of this disaster.

Entire City Had to Be Rebuilt

Such peculiar conditions added to the strangeness of the return of refugees to what had been home. In Melville, Louisiana, the entire city had to be rebuilt. With prodigious labor, houses were dug out of the deep layers of muck, and there was much difficulty found in replacing homes on lots from which the houses had strayed. When possible, the houses were returned and set up on their new foundations and painted anew. With the wondrous help of the Red Cross, a fresh, clean city was born, phoenix-like, from out the calamity.

At Clarendon, Arkansas

It was Sunday morning when we landed at Clarendon, Arkansas. Our first impression was one of surprise at the look of thrift and newness in this substantial town, which had been covered with eleven feet of water during the flood.

The pastor met us at the door of the church where we were to preach, and he, along with his nice brick church building, bore no marks of the flood.

"Well, my dear Doctor ——," we said, "you are all smiles this beautiful Sabbath morning. I see no water mark on your building, and certainly none on you."

"The water marks were all washed off by the Red Cross," he said.

"But your floor, your pews, and your church organ,—they all look so spick and span!"

"Quite so," he said. "But they are all brand new, and made possible by the generosity of our Church Extension Board. You should have seen this church immediately after the flood. We were ruined, and our people had no money and no heart to start anew. We have everything but Bibles for our church, and now comes the American Bible Society with *them*. Thank God for the good old Bible Society!"

After dinner the pastor drove us to the edge of the town and showed us where one hundred pianos had been thrown in a huge pile,—along with other pieces of furniture belonging to the homes of this community,—and burned. And so on and so on! It was the same story all over the country, except that in the smaller villages, and especially on the great plantations and in the sawmill district, the progress back to normal has been a much slower process.

Demon Despair Drives Many Away

We found many homes and farms deserted, their inhabitants having despaired of trying again to build back that which was lost in the flood. One pitiful example came to our notice right here in Dallas. One of our office assistants met this flood sufferer by chance and drew from him the following story:

"I was what might be termed a well-to-do merchant in a thriving town in Louisiana. I owned and operated a successful business in town, and also owned quite a plantation nearby. The flood has ruined all. The plantation was covered with eight feet of acrid sand, so that the land is absolutely worthless. My business buildings in town were wrecked, and because I lived outside the city limits, the red tape of the Red Cross barred me from help from that source. And I was too proud to ask for aid in any other direction. I am here in Texas a penniless man, and I see no hope for the future."

To such people came the American Bible Society. Into thousands of homes where gloom had settled down like a dense fog, the lamp of God's Word was replaced once more, shedding forth its rays of hope and faith. The man above referred to has recently returned to Louisiana and will try again to build his home and his business.

Arkansas Depository

At Little Rock is our Arkansas depository maintained by our subagent, the Reverend D. H. Colquette. This depository has become a valuable asset for the Bible cause of that section, resulting last year in a distribution of nearly 40,000 volumes of the Scripture.

We have already mentioned Mr. Colquette's service rendered us in the devastated area—a work which consumed a good portion of his time. Another special feature of his labors for the year was his service to various penal and eleemosynary institutions. He reports 135 visits to prisons, hospitals and poorhouses, and 14,425 miles traveled. "Some sixty persons have made a profession of faith," Mr. Colquette says.

Louisiana Depository

A veritable lighthouse is the Louisiana depository at New Orleans, where our subagent, G. A. Perkins, is in charge. This great city of the Gulf situated at the mouth of the Mississippi boasts of nearly a half million population, and of a strategic position as regards commerce.

Mr. Perkins reports 59,310 volumes distributed, of which 23,529 volumes were donated. This donation includes 5,000 Gospels given to poor children at the Christmas season.

The Seamen Get Scriptures

Not only does the American Bible Society provide Scriptures without charge for the seamen's bethels at both New Orleans and

Galveston, but our representatives try never to miss an opportunity to visit outgoing ships and supply the sailors and passengers with penny Gospels. No report can be given as to results, but it is a blessed thing to know that we are thus sending the Word of God to the ends of the earth.

Brotherhood Classes Broadcast Scriptures in Daily Bible Reading Campaign

With a growing conviction as to the value of the radio as a means of spreading the "good news" of salvation, we secured the cooperation of the Brotherhood Classes of the city in a program of reading the Scriptures outlined for January and February in the "Daily Bible Reading Campaign," each class being responsible for one week.

The suggestion met with ready response, and the plan proved a great success. There was only one difficulty—and that was that there were not enough weeks to go round. Only nine of the Brotherhood Classes could take part. The job was done, and done well, by leading business laymen of the city.

Approximately 40,000 penny Gospels were distributed in this way, and we are led to believe that many who were listening in caught the idea and carried it out in their own centers.

Selling Bibles by Radio

An evangelist, Wm. E. Hawkins, Jr., originated the idea here in Dallas of selling Scriptures in connection with his daily noon revival services which he broadcasts over KRLD. Our English Bible No. 53C indexed and the Great Primer Testament with Psalms are the two books he selected to be sold over the radio at \$1 each pospaid, a church in the city agreeing to pay the difference in cost over and above the dollar.

The plan works. The interested person who listens in only has to enclose a \$1 bill and address a little note to the Radio Revival, KRLD, Dallas, and the American Bible Society does the rest. The interest is growing, and the sales are mounting up. What will be the final results, time only can tell. But the many letters from the "listeners in" definitely reveal hundreds and hundreds of conversions in the reading and hearing of God's Word in the manner described.

Little Penny Gospels Start a Sunday School Among Indians of Oklahoma

Mr. Ralph Teter is a mechanic for the Aurora Club, Aurora, Illinois, but last summer he spent his vacation in Westville, Oklahoma. During this "idle" time (as he calls it), he conducted services out in the country every Sunday.

We will let him tell us how he started a mission among some young Indians;

"I learned that there were no services at all at Oak Hill, and decided to take a trip out there. Held services every night for a few weeks, visited among the Indians, and gave out Gospels wherever I went. Am enclosing a picture of the Sunday-school class that still meets every Sunday with growing interest and attention. Of course, they are having no preaching service, but many come as far as five miles to Sunday school to get a Gospel ('little Bible,' they call them).

"Before I left, I found that many claimed to have read every word in the 'little Bibles.' To these I gave a Testament."

Mr. Teter is not a Reverend, and yet he has been made assistant pastor in the Methodist Episcopal Church in Aurora, is an active member of the "Fisherman Club" in Cicero, Illinois, and is on the Gospel team of the Y. M. C. A. of Aurora. Our hat is off to Mr. Teter for telling us how to spend a vacation!

What One Woman Did with Her Bible

Mrs. S. E. Bailey, a good woman in Arkansas, tells us the following story as to how she started a Bible Class, and what was accomplished thereby. We quote from her letter:

"I live near a sawmill, a stave factory, a spoke factory, and a hardwood factory. Great crowds of men pass my house every day, and I did long to read to them out of my Bible and tell them about my dear Lord. God marvelously opened the way.

"One man named 'Anthon Scott' did some work for me, and I had a chance to talk to him about reading the Bible. He became anxious to do so, and agreed to come certain nights in the week for Bible study. He knew little of practical religion, but he studied hard, and we talked much about doing mission work. One night, he said to me: 'Mrs. Bailey, would you care if I get some other fellows to come for Bible study?' I said, 'No; bring all the fellows you want to bring.'

"In a few weeks, I had twenty-two men crowded into my little dining room. And then their wives came, and the room was too small! I hired a carpenter. Had a screen room built, just outside my house, where the class could meet. A large number enrolled, and they rejoiced in their knowledge of God's Word.

"I impressed upon them the fact that their Christian joy should be shared with others, so many surrounding communities were wonderfully blessed of God. Last year we sold and donated 200 Bibles, 175 Testaments, and 300 other religious books. My men became evangelists of the Word, visiting on Sundays the various Sunday schools throughout the country."

Bibles for Prisoners

There is blessed satisfaction in giving Bibles to prisoners when we know that the books are properly distributed and prayerfully, intelligently taught. The following letter from Chaplain H. S. Johns is

very gratifying, since it indicates that these conditions prevail at the Louisiana State penitentiary.

I quote Chaplain Johns:—

"I beg to tender you my thanks in behalf of the prisoners for the very generous donation of Bibles and Testaments which you so kindly sent for use in this institution this year. You have been sending a good donation every year, but this, in view of the reports to you, you DOUBLED it!" I assure you the Bible is always in demand among men and women prisoners here. I take them out to the camps and farms, and in the Good Roads camps, as well as use them for Bible study in our daily contact with prisoners. In fact, I have more requests for Bibles than I can supply, but by using discretion in their distribution, I have enough. I give to those who will take care of the Book, and read it.

"May God bless you, and the great American Bible Society."

Converted in a Manhole

One of our most valuable volunteer workers is Mrs. Cora Moore, who superintends the Union Gospel Mission in Dallas. She became interested in some Mexicans who were working on the street in front of her mission. These men were working in this block for several days, and alert to her opportunity to "throw out the life line," Mrs. Moore invited them to attend the services of the mission.

Some of the men accepted the invitation, and among them a young Mexican called "Joe." As was Mrs. Moore's custom, Joe was given one of the A. B. S. penny Gospels, which he laboriously read from time to time until convicted of his sins, though he was reluctant to confess, and give his heart to Jesus.

One day, when "Joe" was in a manhole directly in front of the mission, Mrs. Moore leaned over and, with a smile on her face and a prayer in her heart, said: "What about it, Joe?" The young fellow looked up at her, and, suddenly brightening, said: "Yes, I'll take He'em right now."

So genuine was Joe's conversion, that he continued paying visits to the mission, and his favorite testimony became, "Yes, I took Jesus for my Salvador, right over there under that sidewalk."

Conclusion

Thus endeth our story. It has been a privilege and a joy to do what we could toward the spread of God's Word, that it may be known and revered throughout the broad stretches of this great Southwest. May the Heavenly Father bless every "seed" that was sown, and may there be many "sheaves" brought in at the harvest time.

WESTERN AGENCY

The Western Agency was established in 1907, being first known as the Central Agency. The field includes the states of Colorado, Kansas, Kansas City, Mo., Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. A. F. Ragatz, D.D., 1515 Larimer Street, Denver, Colorado.

The circulation for the year 1928 was 12,576 Bibles, 12,198 Testaments, and 251,526 portions, making a total of 276,300 volumes. The total circulation since the establishment of the Agency is now 1,685,091 volumes. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 6 colporteurs, 26 correspondents, and 43 volunteers.



ACQUAINTANCE with previous reports from this Agency leads one to an expectation, which is not disappointed. There are remarkable illustrations, skillfully and strikingly drawn, of the influence of the Bible on individual lives. Frequently it is simply a copy of a printed Gospel, unaccompanied by any human aid, which accomplishes a marvelous change. Some of these stories are "A Well-timed Get-away," "Santa Claus Reforms," and "Two Years After." Others tell of how the printed page helps the spoken gospel. There is cheer also in the statistical report. For, after a previous year of marked increase despite increased handicaps, this year's report shows a further advance of over thirty-nine per cent; which means "a steady consistent growth in the demand for the Bible in the Rocky Mountain states."

Again the time for making our annual report for the Western Agency has arrived. So busy have we been with our multitudinous tasks, that it seems but a few weeks ago that we were busily engaged in assembling facts and figures for our 1927 story.

The uninitiated may think that these annual stories are mere instalments or even repetitions of the same kind of work done in the same way among the same people. But let him read and compare those reports, and he will discover that each year's work differs from the work of other years.

Extraneous Forces at Work

Some of these changes result from carefully worked out plans; while others come about in the most unexpected manner. In fact, we have witnessed extraneous forces at work, that have completely

changed our plans and have indicated the development of work along lines previously unthought of.

For instance, a new trend was indicated by the avidity with which churches took up the "Scripture reading campaign," whereby the penny Gospels were distributed in hundred thousand quantities. However, before the months set apart for the campaign were over, there appeared a growing demand for the entire Bible.

Fears previously entertained that the reading of a Gospel might satisfy many who participated in this very widely observed campaign, proved groundless. Letters expressing this fear and warning against this danger had scarcely been answered, when other letters began to come in stating that the reading of a Gospel had created a desire to know more about the Sacred Scriptures, and asking for a copy of the entire Bible.

More Bibles than Testaments

Never before in the history of this Agency have there been distributed more copies of the complete Bible than of Testaments. This year marks a new record—all because, as we firmly believe, the penny Gospels were so bountifully provided, that vast numbers of them found their way into the hands of people who possessed no other Scriptures, and, by reading a single Gospel, they became so interested in the divine message, that they procured the entire Book.

That this is more than a mere surmise is borne out by the fact that, during the year, this Agency has not sent out Bibles in large orders to supply special demands, such as happened some years ago. At that time certain states passed laws requiring every public-school room to be supplied with a Bible; and we sent them out in orders ranging from one hundred to a thousand copies to a single purchaser.

This year's sales have been principally made to either the individual himself or to some one who ordered for individuals. We have never had such a continuous flow of orders asking that Bibles be sent for personal use.

A further evidence of a growing interest in the study of the Scriptures is seen in the greatly increased demand for reference and concordance Bibles,—neither of which would be preferred to the text Bibles, were it not for the special aid these features offer to a more critical study of the Scriptures.

A 39 Per Cent Increase

Let all lovers of the Word rejoice then in the fact that, year by year during the last decade, there has been a steady and consistent growth in the demand for the Bible throughout the Rocky Mountain states. Efforts put forth to stimulate the demand for the Scriptures have been richly blessed and largely rewarded. The fruits thereof have been reflected, first, in a more or less spectacular way, by a distribution which this year exceeds by 39 percent that of last year; and, secondly, we must assume that the real fruits of this wide sow-

ing of the "Word," which Christ tells us is the "Seed," will bring forth, through the power of God's Word, a blessed harvest of changed lives, which eternity alone shall be able to reveal. Speaking through the mouth of Isaiah the Lord himself says: "My Word . . . shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

The Bible Placed in the Balance

I doubt if there has ever been a time when the Bible has been subjected to the acid test to which it is being universally subjected to-day. Its pages are opened beneath the cold and merciless light of modern science. Its teaching is being compared with the philosophy of our day. Its claims to antiquity are disputed. Its voice of authority is challenged. Its inspiration is denied; in short, there has, perhaps, never been a time when so many readers of the Word, especially among the younger generation, have assumed the attitude of "Show me, and until you do, I won't believe."

This attitude has reminded me of Lessing's legend of the three rings. He puts into the mouth of Nathan the Jew the story of how the three great religions as represented by himself, the Mohammedan, and the Christian, came into being. In his charming way he says they were presented by a loving father in the form of three rings, one each to his three sons, the rings being so nearly alike that neither father nor sons, nor even the judge, could distinguish one from the others; yet only one of them was genuine.

After all attempts had failed to prove by history or by witness which was the true ring, the judge strikes upon this happy solution,—

"But, hold," exclaims the Judge,
 "Within the true ring a magic power doeth reside
 To make its wearer loved, acceptable to God and man.
 Let that decide; for in the false can no such virtue lie.
 And if the jewel's power among your children's children be revealed,
 And its great virtue realized by all the world—
 By that alone shall each one proven be, and only thus;
 For, came you by them truly as you say,
 Their worth can still be known but by the power they have to work for good,
 And not by any claim that you may make before this judgment seat."

Daily and in a thousand different ways and places, among people of every class, the Bible is called upon to prove its authority and power. There seems to be little variation in the outcome of these tests when sincerely made. The results during the last year,—the last week,—yes, during the last hour,— have been uniformly on the side and in favor of the claims of the Bible. Its power to convict men of sin has not failed. Its promises of forgiveness to those who seek the Lord in faith have not disappointed.

Sowing and Reaping

All through the year the silent voice of its printed page has registered upon the hearts and lives of men and women whose ears have

been closed to the appeals of the pulpit. In fact, literally thousands whose habits of life would not have taken them within hearing of the spoken Word, have gladly received the printed page; and even though, as we are told in the Parable of the Sower, some of this good seed has fallen among stones, some upon hard ground to be snatched away by the enemy, some has begun to grow—without root—merely to wither and die,—some, nevertheless, according to the promise of God, has fallen upon good ground; and we who have had a part in the sowing of the seed may confidently expect that there will be a harvest showing an increase perhaps of only tenfold, or perchance of thirtyfold, and here and there, through the mercy of God, there will be lives that have been blessed and enriched a hundredfold.

All about us, if our eyes could but see and our ears hear, we could observe how this seed of the gospel is bringing forth blessed fruit to the glory of God. Only now and then are we permitted to penetrate the secrets of human hearts and lives, and behold the seed as it springs into life, and watch while it grows into the fruition of righteousness and faith.

Some of these instances have been observed and recorded by our workers; and, while only a few are here related, we know that multitudes of other cases have been noted by the watchful eye of God, that have not been seen by those whose hands have sown the seed and whose prayers have sought the blessing of heaven upon their labors.

A Well-timed "Get-away"

Going to the hotel in a small town, the colporteur was greeted by the man at the desk with, "You surely timed your get-away when you were here last fall! You weren't gone an hour when a woman came, demanding her money back for a Bible you had sold her."

For several days the colporteur sought in vain to find the woman who had been dissatisfied; then, calling at a home and announcing his mission, the woman said:

"Yes, I remember you well. You called at our home last fall and I bought a Bible of you; and if you had not left the town so soon, I'd have made you take it back."

"Why did you want to give it back?" asked the colporteur.

"I didn't want to give it back," said the woman; "but my husband objected to my keeping it, and told me to take it back and get my money."

"What did he say when you had to keep the book?"

"Well," said the woman, "I can't tell you all he said; but he was pretty mad about it."

"Shall I take the Bible back now?" asked the colporteur.

"Oh! no!" came the instant reply. "You see, when my husband found that you were gone and saw the Bible around the house, he finally said, 'Since we have the book, we might as well read it.'"

"And, do you know," she added, "he was so interested in it, that he

could hardly wait until he got home nights to read it. In less than a month I noticed that he was changing; he stopped swearing and became more contented in his work. Then, one Sunday morning, he suggested that we go to church—and we've been going ever since.

"And now," said the woman, with a grand sweep of her arm, "look at my home! I've never had so many things before; my husband has not only kept his job, but has had his wages raised; he has stopped drinking, stopped swearing, is contented and happy, and our home seems like heaven to me."

Leaving the Results with God

Having been raised on the farm, I know with what exacting toil the ground must be prepared, and with what care the seed must be sown; but I also remember that there came a day when my father would say, "Son, that was good seed put into good ground well prepared, and we've done all we can; we must now leave it to our Heavenly Father, who alone can give us the harvest." And I should add that He usually did. Moreover, the memory of those days brings to mind how our colporteurs, correspondents, and unpaid workers—God bless them all!—are all the time preparing the soil and prayerfully planting the seed in human hearts, watching a while for evidences of life and growth, then passing on to other fields.

The seed being good, the sowing carefully done, the evidences of life becoming visible, we can pass on, assured that the Heavenly Father will watch over the tender plant and finally bring it to harvest. Thus there are scores of sentence reports that come to us in the many letters we receive, none of which within themselves would cause a thrill; yet, when considered in their true relation to the whole scheme of things, they loom with a significance that strengthens the heart with hope and brings courage for tomorrow's task.

Encouraging Reports

Here are some of the evidences that the sown seed is springing up unto life eternal:—

"Yes, I've read the Gospel of John you gave me, and I'd like to have the Gospel of Luke."

"That little book (St. John) has surely made me think."

"I thought I was a pretty decent sort of chap and was satisfied with myself, until I read that Gospel you sold me."

"That little Gospel is the only part of the Bible I've ever read. If the rest is anything like that, I want the whole Book."

"I don't know who John that wrote the Gospel was, but he certainly told me what ailed me, and how to get fixed up with God."

"I've read this little book (St. John) every day for the last two months, and the more I read it, the more anxious I am to read it again. I learn something new every time I look at it."

"I have spent thousands of dollars for things that brought me less

pleasure than I've gotten out of this Gospel. Why, it has made a new man out of me, and I wouldn't exchange what I've gotten out of it for any price."

"This little Gospel was like one of the letters my mother used to write to me before she died many years ago. Since then life has been hard, and I thought no one cared for me, until I read this. Now I know that Jesus loves me, and helps me every day. I have been brought back to my mother's God by the reading of this sweet story of his love."

These are only a few statements taken from scores of similar ones made by people to whom Gospels had been given. It was good seed that was sown; and though much of it may not grow, some at least has shown life and promises a yield of blessed fruit in the lives of many.

Dying Man Is Saved

"The woman," writes a colporteur, "who came to the door in response to my knock, said, 'I'm sorry, mister, but I cannot let you come in; for my husband is very ill.' At that moment the sick man called to his wife, asking that she allow the caller to come in and talk to him. I entered and found a very sick man apparently near death, but, as it soon developed, unprepared to meet his God. I read to him from my Bible, assured him of the Saviour's love, and as I was praying for him, he began to pray for himself. I promised to call again on the following day, and on my arrival found both the sick man and his wife rejoicing in their newly found acceptance of Christ. They begged me to return that evening and have devotions with them; for, they explained, their children would then be home, and they wanted them to hear the message. We had a very tender service that night, and on the following day I left the town, bearing with me their joint and individual promise that they would be faithful in their Christian life."

A Woman's Faith—and Work

Early in the year we received a letter from a Montana settlement many miles from the nearest railroad. The woman who wrote stated that, through several years of crop failure, they were destitute. There was no religious service nearer than sixty miles; they had no Bibles in their homes, and no money with which to buy them.

She proposed to gather the women folks of the settlement into a Bible study and prayer group, and asked if we could give a Bible to each home that would be represented in this group. We cheerfully agreed to do so, and immediately sent one copy to this woman, promising more to those whom she should interest. Soon we had requests for five more; then for three; then others were asked for, until we had sent twenty-four in all.

Since then reports have been received stating that this band of faithful women were meeting in various homes, and that many of their

husbands had joined them in their circle of prayer and Scripture reading.

"When He Came to Himself"

A pastor, who carries a small stock of Bibles, received a caller one morning, who, from appearances, was just recovering from a drunken debauch. The man had been sent to this town on a business errand by his employers. The business attended to, he had participated in an all-night drinking party.

Due to the quantity of poisonous liquor consumed, he found himself a very sick man; in fact, the attending physician feared for a time that his patient would not survive. But survive he did, and after a few days began to consider his situation. Faced with the loss of a considerable sum of money, the probable loss of his job, coupled with the shame and remorse brought about by his weakness, he chanced to open the Gideon Bible in his room. What he read greatly influenced him and was the direct cause for his calling on the minister to whom he told this story:—

"You see, I had a Christian mother, who used to read the Scriptures to me and tell me Bible stories; but she died while I was young, and I left home. Bad company led me into evil ways. When I got married, I tried to reform; but all I really did was to become a little more moderate and take greater care to keep my sins secret. I thought I had control of myself, but I see now that, unless I can get help, I'm lost. Do you believe there is help for me? Are these promises true? What must I do to get strength from God, so that I can live a clean and decent life?"

The minister had an earnest talk with him, directing him in the way of truth and life, and when he asked him to surrender to Jesus Christ, the man gladly kneeled and pledged in prayer his complete surrender to God.

"Santa Claus" Reforms

He was nicknamed "Santa Claus" down at the city jail. Not that he was in the habit of coming there bearing gifts. He came there all right,—and often too,—but usually charged with drunkenness, vagrancy, or some minor infraction of the law. They started calling him Santa Claus, because, on a snowy day near Christmas, he was found peddling on the street a Christmas tree he had stolen.

This time it was different. He was in jail, but had not been arrested. He was sober too,—even though the sergeant at the desk thought he must be drunk or crazy. For, you see, this man had walked into headquarters, presented himself before the desk and laid down a lady's handbag containing money and jewelry, saying, "Here, boss, is what I stole out of an auto nearly a week ago."

The police records contained detailed description of the handbag. The contents showed that nothing was missing,—and this is what amazed the officers. Even though fear of detection might have pre-

vented him from disposing of the jewelry, the cash might have been used with comparative safety. Then, too, there had been no clues to the theft, no suspicion, no questioning; and yet, of his own accord, this man had brought back the stolen handbag, refusing to say he had "found" it; had openly confessed his guilt and freely surrendered himself to the law.

The owner was called. She examined the contents and, finally, admitted that one article was missing. No—she had not listed it; for, as she explained, it had cost only one penny—it was a Gospel of Luke.

She asked permission to speak to the prisoner, who, when asked how it happened that he had returned the stolen property, said:—

"When I got to my room and saw what was in that bag, I knowed I had made a good haul. The money I put in my jeans, and the joolry I took to a friend who wanted to buy it, but didn't offer me as much as I thought I could get; so I took it back to my room. Then I looked at that little book and was soon readin' it. I read it nearly through; but when I tried to go to sleep that night, I kept thinkin' of that bozo who got all he could out of his old man, and then beat it to a forin' country, and there lost his dough and was feedin' the hogs and eatin' their food, while the old man at home had everything money could buy, and yet was unhappy, 'cause his son had run away.

"I got up and tried to find that story, but had to most read the whole book before I got to the place. Well, when I read it, I begun to think that I was him, living and eating among the hogs; and the more I thought, the surer I was. Then I begun to pray, and, mind you, it was the first time I prayed since I was a little codger at home with my ma.

"You can see, lady, how it all cum about. I couldn't go back to God without confessin', and how could I confess with all them stolen goods on me? It took me nearly a week to fight it out. Some days I'd swear I'd chuck the hull thing, and then I'd change my mind. Last night I tried praying again, and the first thing I knowed, I was tellin' the Lord I'd give back what I stole and do my stretch for the stealin', if only He'd forgive me. And all at once I knew I was forgiven; and I was happier today when I cum in here and surrendered, than I've been in all my life."

Bibleless Homes

A colporteur working in Idaho was told by a man, at whose home he was calling, "We haven't been in a church for fifteen years, and have never owned a Bible." After telling them about the Word and reading selected passages, the mother timidly inquired the price of a Bible. On being told how little they cost, she asked her husband to purchase one. He, having been deeply moved by the reading, suggested that they buy, not one, but seven, so that each member of the family could have his own book.

In the same community the colporteur found thirteen families that had never owned even a Testament. In some of them were grown children who had never seen a Bible, had never been inside a church, and had never heard the gospel message.

Most of us find it difficult to imagine conditions such as exist in many of these frontier communities. For instance, this same colporteur met a woman who, on Sunday afternoons, had for fifteen years taught a class of girls and yet had never owned a Bible.

A denominational state Sunday-school worker organized a three-day institute, which was attended by nearly a hundred teachers and leaders. As a result of a questionnaire, he found that nearly a score of these leaders did not possess Bibles.

Ex-bootlegger Introduces Preacher

After calling for a week at the homes of Mormons in a Western village, the colporteur was invited to preach to them in their meeting-house on Sunday evening. On entering the place, a man arose in the audience, approached the speaker, and, addressing those present, said: "Friends, this is the man who came to the jail and preached to us. I was there for bootlegging. I was a hard citizen. I hated everybody and felt that everybody hated me. But this man told us that Jesus loved even the sinner; he gave me this Testament, and I read it. I believed what it said, and I am a saved man!" Tears streamed down his face as he pleaded with his neighbors to "give God's Word a chance" in their lives by hearing it preached and by reading it. At the close of the service, the wife and son of this ex-bootlegger surrendered to Christ, and sixty other people present asked for Testaments, saying they had none, but wanted to read for themselves the blessed Word.

What Is One Gospel among So Many?

In another town this colporteur spoke at a meeting, and offered a Gospel of John to every person who would promise to read it. More than a hundred were given. Some days later, while driving miles from this town, the colporteur was changing a tire on his car when a boy approached and said, "Oh! Mr. Bible Man, my father wants to see you; please wait until I go and tell him that you are here."

In a little while father and son returned. The colporteur was cordially invited to go with them to their home for dinner. He accepted and, on entering the house, found father, mother, and eleven children. During the meal he was told that this home had never possessed a Bible; that the father had been at the meeting where he had been given a Gospel of John, which, he said, they had been reading aloud to the family, with the result that they were anxious to buy a Bible, so they could read all the Scriptures.

Among the Ute and Navaho Indians

Early in the year I had an appeal from a missionary working among the Ute and Navaho Indians, in which he said, "Most of these children come from stark heathenism. Very few, if any, of their parents have ever heard of the gospel. They are desperately poor and can not afford to buy Scriptures. Can you give us eighty Testaments, so that not one who can read shall be omitted in the distribution?"

The Testaments were sent, and some months later came a letter, saying, "If you could see and hear the hearty manner in which these eighty Indian children repeat from memory whole chapters of the Testament, the first and twenty-third Psalms and the Ten Commandments, you would feel that, even though when they return to their several reservations and their Testaments are lost,—as doubtless many of them will be,—they will always have stored away in their memories the precious truth of God, which without question will be a blessing to them as long as they live."

The "Bread of Life" in a Restaurant

A colporteur writes: "I got acquainted with a young Greek at whose restaurant I ate occasionally. I found that he had never seen a Bible, and readily sold him a New Testament. Several weeks later I called again. He was very glad to see me, and at once told me how, by reading his Testament, he had found Jesus. He wanted several copies to give to friends. Since that time his restaurant has become a meeting place for young Greeks to whom he gives the Scriptures, and who assemble there, after closing time, and together study the Word."

After Two Years

Two years ago, one of our voluntary workers presented a Bible to a postal employee. Several months later this worker met the man and inquired if he had read the book. "No," said he, "I'm too busy." Not long after that, the employee offered the Bible to a fellow employee. Nearly a year after the original gift had been made, this worker inquired about the Bible and was told that the second owner, not finding time to read it, had given it to a business friend. The worker decided to follow it up and find out what had become of the Bible. Calling on the business man, he was told that he too had not found time to read, and had given it to a Greek with whom he did business. The worker, after some time, met the Greek and found that at last the Bible had gotten into the hands of a man who had time to read. "Twice," he said, "have I read this book through. It has shown me that I was in sin and lost without Christ. I accepted Christ as my Saviour and belong to a church; and I am telling my friends about this wonderful love that saves and keeps me day by day."

The Young Missionary

A young boy told his Sunday-school teacher that he wanted to do some missionary work. The teacher consulted with her pastor, who suggested that they buy penny Gospels of John and let the boy give them to those who would promise to read them. Months later, while the teacher felt little, if any, good could come from such simple service, the boy came to her all athrill; for that very hour a man had stopped him on the street, inquiring, "Aren't you the boy who gave me this little Gospel last fall?" "Well," said the man, "I'm glad to see you; for I want to thank you for that little book. I read it, and it saved my soul."

An Honest Doubter Convinced

A pastor, at the close of his sermon one Sunday morning, was told by a man, "If you can prove to me that what you preach is true, I'll become a Christian." After further conversation, the man added, "If you have a book on Christian evidences that you can let me have, I'll read it carefully, and, if it proves its claims, I'll be glad to believe."

That afternoon the pastor took one of his little Gospels of John, carefully marked several passages, and wrote a personal letter to this man, saying, "If you read this book carefully, with a heart open to God's Spirit, I believe you will be willing to place your eternal hope on chapter 3, verse 16."

Before the following Sunday the minister called at this man's home. The man stated that, when the Gospel of John came, he was much disappointed; for he had expected some profound treatise on the Christian faith. But he read the Gospel, read it several times, and at last discovered that his doubts had vanished; he believed, he accepted Christ, and was saved. Nor did he stop there. He had led his wife into this saving grace, and the next Sunday the entire family openly confessed Christ as their Saviour and united with the church.

A Ray of Hope to the Hopeless

It is not often that those in charge of county hospitals put themselves out to aid gospel workers in doing missionary work among their patients. But such is the case in at least one of the largest institutions of its kind in this Agency. These workers have shown themselves so wise, devoted and sympathetic, that the managers have invited them to come once a week on a day other than general visiting day, so that there may be no interference with their work.

From a large list of cases where through their faithful ministry men and women have been won to Christ, only a few are recorded here.

A man to whom a Testament had been previously given, seemed in great spiritual distress. "Oh!" he exclaimed, "this book tells me I am lost."

"Yes," said the worker; "but it also says that 'Jesus came to seek and to save the lost.'"

"But," came the reply, "there are some who cannot be saved, and there is no hope for me. It says here (John 12:10) that, if one has blasphemed against the Holy Ghost, he cannot be forgiven."

Wisely and tenderly they explained the Word. The man was under deep conviction, longed for pardon, and soon believed that there was forgiveness for him. And he was saved.

"The Most Wonderful Book"

A woman, who had received a marked Gospel of John, declared it "the most wonderful book" she had ever seen in her life. Never having read the Scriptures, and having been brought up in a religion making much of form and ceremony, she was greatly depressed for fear she should not recover sufficiently "to go to church and be saved."

She was soon convinced by the Scriptures that Christ could save her where and whenever she might make a complete surrender to him. This she did, and not many days after left this world to meet Him who had loved her with a love that saves to the uttermost.

English vs. Greek

On a cot in the corner of one of the wards lay a Greek boy who had come alone to this country, and who had broken under the strain of his work and was now slowly dying with tuberculosis. He had listened attentively to the services from time to time, but had never indicated a desire to be personally talked to. Finally, one of the workers decided to make sure he understood all that was said in English. She found that he had only a smattering of the truth. He yearned to share in this wonderful love they had spoken about, but could not believe that it included him. The English Testament had been read by him, but not understood. They brought him one in Greek. It was pathetic to see how he was moved by it.

"Why," said he, "I thought this religion was for you, and here it says in Greek that God loves *ME!*"

"When I Did What the Book Said"

In the case of an Italian who seemed to understand English perfectly, yet asked for a Testament in his native language, it developed later that he feared there must be a mistake; that it could not possibly be true that he alone, without priest or price, could find forgiveness of sins. Receiving an Italian Testament, he was soon rejoicing in his newly found peace with God; for, as he later explained, "When I read it in my own Italian, I saw it was true; and when I did what the Book said, I found my Lord."

Thus, through the months of another year, there have been many evidences of God's blessing. The printed Word has been more in demand than ever before, and has shown itself to be a living message of hope and life to many.

PACIFIC AGENCY

The Pacific Agency was established in 1907. The field covered includes the states of California, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington; to which the Hawaiian Islands were added in 1920, and Alaska in 1926. The Rev. A. Wesley Mell, 250 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, Calif., is Agency Secretary.

The circulation for the year 1928 was 19,083 Bibles, 31,231 Testaments, and 393,055 portions, making a total of 443,369 volumes. The total circulation since 1907 is now 3,667,981. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 6 colporteurs, 146 correspondents, and 187 volunteers.



ENTHUSED and enthusiastic himself, it is not surprising to discover, from the pages which follow, that the Agency Secretary is aided and abetted by a goodly number and variety of enthusiastic coworkers. The variety is largely the result of the variety in conditions and constituency. With a territory running from the cold climate on the Canadian border to the sunny regions which touch Mexico, and with a constituency built and building from all sections of the United States on the east, and from the lands of the Orient across the Pacific, a variety of work and workers is inevitable. Inevitable also, because of this very variety, is the brevity with which the various phases of work are presented. Even so, the report is the longest from the Home Agencies. But it sweeps along in a challenging way.

This 1928 Bible Day topic, "Sowing the Seed," has been the keynote of our work in the Pacific Agency during the past year. We have had many new and marked evidences of the vital value and power of the Scriptures as precious seed in the lives of men. We have seen demonstrated the truth of Christ's saying, "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." Embodied in literature, these words are life-giving, life-transforming and kingdom-producing.

A Unique Oriental Situation

The Pacific Agency has several hundred thousand emigrants from the Orient: Chinese, Japanese, Koreans, and East Indians. More than in all the rest of the United States, these thousands present a very different problem from those emigrants coming from Europe, as these Europeans come from lands that are either Protestant, Roman Catholic, or Greek Catholic, and have a definite background of faith in Christ;

and the task to persuade them to read the Scriptures concerning Christ is comparatively a short and easy step. But the chasm to be bridged by the Asiatics from their religion to Christ is a much deeper and wider one. It makes the missionary problem in the Pacific Agency a very unique but most interesting one.

Centers

In all the larger cities of the Agency we have secured a downtown book center, convenient to the churches and missions, to sell and distribute our books. The church centers and missions selling books have gladly cooperated; and these, with a number of commercial bookstores handling Bibles, have greatly aided in the general work of circulation to the public. Among these the Methodist Book Concern, the American Baptist Publication Society, the Presbyterian Book Stores, the Congregational Book Stores, the Latin-American Mission, the Seventh-day Adventists Book Stores, and a number of interdenominational and independent stores have given valuable service in accommodating the churches and the public.

Seed Sowing by Airplane

The airplane, with us, is becoming a common carrier for Scriptural seed sowing. The little Testament and Psalms, stamped in gold with a monoplane, has continued in favor with those "air minded."

Special orders have been received from various places, far and near. Air ports have been visited and pilots supplied with copies. More than two thousand volumes of airplane stamped Gospels were distributed in Los Angeles, and many others elsewhere.

Captain Kingsford-Smith, and his copilot, carried a souvenir New Testament on their flight in the Southern Cross, to Australia. They were not permitted to carry United States mail, in which we had hoped to send a special copy to Dr. A. T. Thompson, secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society for the Commonwealth of Australia. This was then forwarded to him by ship, and the following letter received:

From Australia

"Your letter of June 9 has just come to hand, together with the parcel containing the souvenir Testament you had intended sending by air mail per Captain Kingsford-Smith. I can not tell you how much I appreciate your very kind and beautiful message, nor how much I admire your happy idea in sending a copy of the Scriptures over the wide Pacific on this historic flight. Little did I know when, standing on top of our Bible House in Melbourne to witness the flight of the 'Southern Cross' right over our Bible House on its arrival in the city, that all this had been planned by you, and that I was being singled out for such noticeable distinction. I take the will for the deed, congratulate you on your splendid idea, and thank you most warmly for the souvenir copy

of the New Testament and Psalms which has arrived. I shall treasure it exceedingly and shall use your idea, if I may, on the flight across the Tasman Sea to my homeland—New Zealand.

"I trust the links will deepen and strengthen between our two lands, washed as they are by the waters of the Pacific, and hope that the name of our great ocean may be prophetic of the nature of the relations that shall exist among the peoples who live on the shores of this great ocean. With kindest regards, and fraternal greetings in our common task, Yours very sincerely.

"A. T. THOMPSON, *Commonwealth Secretary.*"

For the Graf Zeppelin

An airplane New Testament was presented to Dr. Edward D. Kohlstedt, corresponding secretary of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in recognition of his extensive air tours while in the Pacific Agency.

Later, while in the East, en route from Chicago to Philadelphia, Dr. Kohlstedt met Dr. Hugh Eckener, Commander of the Graf Zeppelin, and his aides. Finding them interested, this copy was presented, as a souvenir, to the Commander's son, Knute Eckener, the young hero on that notable trip.

Thus, in many ways and in widely scattered places, these souvenir New Testaments have carried the living Word of good will, peace and life.

A New Appreciation

It was with special satisfaction, this past summer, that we had the joy of personally distributing several of these airplane New Testaments to the pilots on a San Diego air field, on the occasion of their having given Mrs. Mell, our daughter and myself our first airplane ride. We now have a better realization of what these airmen meet, in storm and in sunshine, as they travel on "the wings of the morning," and are most happy to have our Society strengthen them in spirit with the Bible's sovereign and soaring words of life.

Broadcasting

For the past six years we have regularly maintained, at KPO Station (Hale Brothers and the *Chronicle*), "the voice of San Francisco, the city by the Golden Gate," the noonday program of Scripture reading, with the playing of the chimes immediately preceding the Scripture reading.

This sweet-toned and spiritual service has become a far-famed institution of KPO, and from many letters received we judge that thousands of individuals and many institutions await this noontime service. It comes as grace to some at mealtime. On busy streets at the radio shops people may be seen setting their watches at the twelve o'clock signal, and then reverently waiting for the chimes and Scripture read-

ing. At different times, pastors, rabbis, and priests have read the Scriptures to the radio audiences. So popular has the service become, that certain other radio stations have, to our joy, taken our suggestion and give a week-day Scripture reading; and at least one station in Los Angeles—KTBI—has taken the same hour for the playing of the chimes and the Scripture reading.

Bible Reading Campaign

We have again cooperated with the Federal Council of Churches and with the pastors in a most satisfactory and widespread distribution of the Gospels of St. Matthew and St. John, for the daily Bible reading by the churches during January and February. The sale in 1928 showed a greater number of churches participating in this reading, than the previous year. The noontime Scripture broadcasting read these lessons and thus helped spread their popularity.

World's Sunday-school Convention

The American Bible Society volumes have been on exhibit at a number of conventions, fairs, and churches. But the largest and most significant in the Pacific Agency was, last summer, at the World's Sunday-school Association Convention in Los Angeles. The convention was attended by 7,600 delegates, and religious educational directors from all the states in the Union and from thirty-two foreign countries.

In the Center

Among a host of seventy-two exhibits of the main publishers of Sunday-school supplies, the American Bible Society occupied a central place and attracted the attention of thousands by its beautifully illuminated twenty-foot lighthouse, radio towers and the large world globe, and the glass showcase containing Bibles of rare bindings, as well as the attractive general posters, mottoes and flags of all nations. All of these were interesting and afforded information to the crowds.

But the center of all interest and inquiry were the tables covered with literature and Gospels. The picture-covered Gospels were a most pleasing feature of the exhibit and were very popular. The distribution of some 8,000 Gospels and some 12,000 pieces of literature reflects the record of attendance at our exhibit. Some 1,700 of these visitors enrolled at our Bible booth and expressed their interest in the Society and its work. Groups of Japanese, Filipinos, Chinese, Mexicans, American Indians, Africans, and East Indians crowded about our tables.

Dr. and Mrs. Hugh C. Tucker, of our Brazilian Agency, Mrs. U. G. Murphy, wife of our representative in Seattle, were frequent visitors at our booth; and Mr. and Mrs. Irwin, of Siam, were among our daily valued workers at the booth. Mr. Toga, our Japanese colporteur, Mr. Green, our Jewish worker, and Miss Carlmark, of the Swedish church, were members of our exhibit staff who rendered most helpful service.

The well-known American Indian evangelist, Chief Manitowog, now in his eighty-first year, converted over forty years ago through the gift of a Bible while a convict in Sing Sing prison, was an outstanding visitor; also Sam Green, our Jewish worker, converted fifteen years ago in San Francisco by the gift of a New Testament. These were living exhibits of the Bible and its power and attracted much interest.

City Public Library Exhibit

The officials of the Public Library, in Los Angeles, were so impressed with the exhibit of the American Bible Society at the World's Sunday-school Convention, that they asked that it be loaned to them for several weeks for display in the city library. This was done to the satisfaction of all concerned. Hundreds studied the exhibit, and it was pronounced by all a splendid showing.

Bible Day

The Pacific Agency stressed the importance of Bible Day for the churches, the general public, and the Bible Society. By special correspondence, notices, press dispatches, and literature, we endeavored to secure the active cooperation of church federations, Y. M. C. A. secretaries, missions and Sunday-school superintendents, church and daily press editors, as well as pastors and religious directors.

The response was most gratifying. The topic appealed to the churches, and we believe there was a larger participation in the general suggestion from the Bible Society, than in other years. The pastors made use of the posters and literature, and the Word was sent out through the press, the spoken Word from the pulpit and by radio.

While the majority of pastors observed the regular day, a number observed Bible Sunday, before and after December 9.

The stereopticon slides showing "Bible Work around the World" were also used in the Pacific Agency. We had many calls for the Society's literature and posters. The denominational and general book-stores gave prominent display to Bible Day posters and cooperated freely in the distribution of the special literature. Colporteurs and correspondents eagerly assisted in securing observance of the day.

In the Northwest

The Rev. and Mrs. U. G. Murphy, in Seattle, have had another successful year in supplying the northern section of the Agency with nearly twenty-six thousand copies of Scriptures in more than a score of languages. Their home has not only been a center for the Japanese work, but for the churches, missions, and missionaries seeking to obtain the Word. Their work has been throughout the state of Washington and northward into Alaska and by ships to distant ports.

The Rev. Murphy has traveled throughout the Agency, visiting missions and Japanese camps and centers. He has been influential in

reaching with vital messages the Japanese-American young people. These have been eager purchasers of the Scriptures. Perhaps no class in America has had more difficult problems to face, than these eager, open-hearted young people who have turned their faces from the Oriental past to the present American life and culture.

Mrs. C. W. Bowie

In Portland Mrs. Bowie has bravely and actively continued the work of her dear husband, who, after thirty-six years of Bible selling throughout all the western states, from Washington to Texas, left early last year his seed-sowing here to enter his eternal reward.

Mrs. Bowie, as partner in this work, has found her comfort and joy in ministering to the Bible needs of a great city and its adjacent communities. She has had a successful year, and her headquarters have been a center for the churches and missions in northern Oregon.

Jewish Worker

The generosity of a long-time friend of the American Bible Society has continued the work of our Jewish colporteur, Mr. Sam Green. He has been invaluable to our work. Converted some years ago, in San Francisco, through the gift of one of the Society's New Testaments, he has ever remained an intense believer in the power of the New Testament to lead a man to Christ. Ever faithful in colportage, he speaks so as to sell Scriptures in nine languages. During the first half of 1928 Mr. Green did colportage work in the foreign-speaking districts of Los Angeles, especially doing house-to-house work among the Jews, Russians, and Poles, visiting and supplying Scriptures; also among the foreign-speaking churches, Sunday schools and missions, selling five thousand Bibles, New Testaments, and portions.

Since the World's Sunday-school Convention, where he gave most helpful service, Mr. Green's work has been in San Francisco, where he has greatly assisted us in the office and in reaching the foreign-speaking people here and in outlying districts, having visited Sacramento and other centers with the precious Word.

Among the Lepers

Mrs. Elizabeth C. Faulkner, of Sacramento, California, made her fourth annual trip to visit the lepers from the Pacific coast states confined in the United States hospital in Carville, Louisiana. Mrs. Faulkner has worked among these lepers for the past ten years, and had the privilege of leading a number of them to Christ when they were in the United States hospital in San Francisco. She frequently used to visit them and brought to them the hope and comfort of the gospel. Since they were taken to Carville, they have longingly looked and waited for her visits.

Mrs. Faulkner wrote: "When we arrived at the colony, the patients were overjoyed, some wept tears of joy, some praised God aloud and

expressed great joy. I said to one dear lady, 'I love you, dear lady'; and with tears streaming down her cheek, she said, 'Is it possible that some one loves us enough to come 5,000 miles to visit us, when most everyone fears to visit us?'

"Many of my California boys and girls have good testimony of God's keeping power. A dear Chinese boy, who two years ago leaped for joy when he saw me, has been a real missionary. Now he is in the hospital, all his fingers gone, blind, and his voice gone, so that he can not speak above a whisper, his arms almost a solid mass of sores, and nose entirely gone: when he heard my voice, in a whisper, he praised and thanked God for sending me to him. He did not complain of loneliness or pain, but only thanked God for his keeping power. I also met Blind Pedro, who is still an earnest Christian and recited for us his favorite chapter at the morning service.

In Prison

"I also visited the Baton Rouge prison and received a hearty welcome from the officers and some of the prisoners, with whom we prayed and gave Gospels.

"Since my return to California I have distributed Gospels and worked in San Francisco, Oakland, Tulare, Woodland, Redwood City, Chico, Los Angeles, San Quentin, and Ione, in English, Spanish, Italian, Chinese, Japanese, German, Greek, Portuguese, and the Filipino dialects.

"A few days ago, in the Sacramento jail, a Chinese boy came forward with a Chinese Gospel and said, 'When I am released, I am going to Lockport and tell all the Chinese what this book says about Jesus, and what He has done for us.' His face was shining with joy. Here, in the county jail, we have an hour of prayer. The prisoners sing, pray, and commit Scripture verses to memory. They enjoy this hour very much."

Correspondents

We have had a host of colaborers, to whom too much praise can not be given. They are earnest, faithful, self-sacrificing and self-supporting, Pauline type of Bible workers. They have traveled practically over the entire Agency, visiting remote sections, isolated ranches, Indian camps, miners' cabins, and loggers' quarters. They have visited from house to house in the poorer and foreign parts of the cities. They have given Bible service in the county jails, orphanages, homes for the aged, and hospitals. Some thousands of homes have been visited, one alone visiting several thousand, taking the Scriptures to different nationalities. "On one occasion," he writes, "I met a Korean man sitting on his porch. I had brought a Korean Gospel with me this day, and when I gave it to him, his face lighted up and he seemed unable to stop bowing and thanking me." To such foreigners, the Scripture in their own language is a boon and blessing.

Street Work

A number of correspondents have given special attention to street work.

Among these, Tom Mackey, of Los Angeles, distributed over five thousand portions of Scriptures during the year. He writes, "For years I distributed tracts of all kinds, good, bad, and indifferent—all written with the best of intentions, but all were man-made. Now I am distributing nothing but the Word of God. This accomplishes His will. It is safe, sound, satisfying, and sure to be a blessing; so my work now is to give out the Word. I was converted when over forty years of age; am now seventy-four and have had thirty-five years of victory and Scripture distribution, still on the way, but not still.

A \$1.00 Challenge

"I have a gospel wagon service every Sunday afternoon on the street corner in Los Angeles. I have said time and time again, 'If any man will take the Gospel of John and read the twenty-one chapters, if it don't help him in any way, let him bring it back the next Sunday, and I will give him one dollar for the book.' Not one has ever come back. God's Word is sure to do all that it promises."

Jails

"County jails in California," according to a recent survey of the State Department of Social Welfare, "are for the most part vermin-infected, unsanitary, dark, damp, and unventilated places." On the whole, they are "breeding places of crime and incubators of vice." Over 64,000 men and 2,000 children pass through these jails each year. There is little segregation: first offenders are thrown in with hardened criminals and there left in idleness for years."

Correspondence indicates that conditions are no better in the other states. No wonder the Bible-bringing visitors are welcomed; and now with a woman at the head of the State's Social Service, agitating for reform, it seems that the ethics of the Bible will at last reach and get into the management of the prison. In the meantime, scores of Bible workers, women as well as men, chaplains and prison workers, carry with the Bible sunshine and comfort to these darkened cells.

Among the Filipinos

During the recent years, and especially during 1928, there has been a great influx to the Pacific coast of thousands of Filipinos. It is estimated that 83,000 have already arrived. The disbarment of the Orientals, and the open door to the Filipinos, has brought a strong tide of emigration, not only from the Philippine Islands, but from the Hawaiian Islands also.

With this emigration there came a most earnest and successful Bible colporteur from the Philippine Islands—B. O. Tolentino. He had been

for some years in Bible work in the Philippines and came to California strongly recommended by Mr. Cameron, Secretary of the Philippines Agency. By special arrangement with New York, it was possible for Mr. Tolentino to take up Bible missionary work. But, to make his work as largely self-supporting as possible, Mr. Tolentino first joined a group of Filipinos sailing to Alaska on a salmon fleet, that he might work in the fisheries and in the canneries of the North. He sold Scriptures to practically all of the Filipinos on his boat. This party of men previously had always held dances in the bunk house, in Alaska; but this year, instead, Mr. Tolentino organized Sunday schools, Bible Classes and forceful Christian gatherings.

After his return from Alaska, Mr. Tolentino took up definite work around San Francisco Harbor and later in the San Joaquin Valley, and visited different camps where he sold Scriptures in Ilocano, Tagalog, Visayan, Spanish, and English. He has found great need of Scriptures among these Roman Catholic emigrants, but he has also found great eagerness on the part of the Filipinos to obtain the best possible in America.

Encouragement

Mr. Tolentino has received the help and encouragement of a number of Filipinos in his work. He has traveled by a car that he purchased, and carries his own tent. His car has been of great service in reaching the different camps. During the year he has sold and distributed some 1,500 volumes of Scriptures, about 500 of these being Bibles. And because these Scriptures have practically all been sold to young men brought up in the Roman Catholic faith, but who were without the Bible, his missionary work may well be considered most successful.

A number of Filipinos have purchased pulpit Bibles to present to the Protestant churches in their home towns. These have been beautifully inscribed with names of the donors, and sent as love gifts to the far-distant islands.

Children

We rejoice in the very special effort that has been made, not only by the regular forces of the churches,—as the Bible schools, the vacation Bible schools, the week-day church schools, and other religious organizations,—to reach the children with the gospel, but by special workers, evangelists, and children's unions that have sought to sow the seed in the hearts of children. Among such is the Rev. Frank A. Miller, of Los Angeles, who has done a good year's work, distributing 2,500 Gospels in tent meetings.

Another successful worker, Mr. Riley O. Johnson, has carefully distributed 3,500 Gospels, 300 New Testaments, and 60 Bibles to children. He writes: "I have found that the Bible contains a powerful appeal to children, when they are properly impressed with the fact that reading the Bible is nothing more or less than giving God a chance to speak to them."

Among the Germans

German-speaking pastors and missionaries have greatly assisted us in reaching the German-speaking people. Among these an especially active Bible worker for many years has been Mr. W. A. S. Mueller, of Oregon, who, though an elderly man, has traveled many miles on foot to logging camps and to homes in the foothills, doing personal work, selling and distributing Scriptures in many languages.

Spanish-speaking

Los Angeles is the third largest Mexican city in the world. There are undoubtedly over a quarter of a million of Mexicans in the United States, and the majority of these are in southern California. We have had the splendid cooperation of superintendents and pastors of the Latin-American missions and other denominational and independent missions working among the Spanish-speaking and the Portuguese.

Catholics

It seems to be the general conviction throughout the Agency among the Bible workers that Roman Catholics are much more open-minded and eager than ever in the past to secure copies of Scriptures.

Priests are recommending the reading of the Bible, and the public press, the movies, and the radio are all helping the walls of sectarian partitions to break down. Men no longer accept ecclesiastical authority as they once did, but read for themselves. We have, this past year, sold a number of Bibles to Catholics, and have had more cooperation from Catholics in selling Scriptures than before.

For some months the Paulist Fathers of San Francisco, for ten minutes at the noon hour, broadcast a portion of Scripture without comment.

A Catholic convert, Mrs. A. B. Shepherd, was led to Christ through reading the Bible; and for many years had been active in circulating the Scriptures. Her daughter has joined her in opening a Bible hall in Berkeley and in distributing over a thousand copies of Scriptures in city and country jails, hospitals, and homes.

Among the Japanese

Y. Toga has been an active worker among the Japanese in California. He has sold Scriptures, not only in the central part of the state, but in towns along the coast, traveling to Los Angeles and visiting the Japanese centers en route and in southern California.

During the past eight years Mr. Toga has sold over 3,000 Bibles. He says the younger generation of Japanese are now using English Bibles.

For the Japanese Emperor

Through Mr. Toga's initiative, the Japanese Christians in the United States purchased and presented His Majesty the Emperor of

Japan, and His Highness Prince Chichibu, with Japanese Bibles of special binding on the occasion of the coronation of the Emperor, in November, and the royal wedding of the Prince. Under appointment of these Christians, Mr. Toga placed an order with the American Bible Society for the Bibles at the cost of approximately five hundred yen.

It may be a surprise to know that the Japanese group is one of the foreign-speaking groups, on the Pacific coast, that are the best supplied with Scriptures. These Japanese have not only obtained the Bible, but are eager to help distribute it among the visiting Japanese. They have always arranged to supply with copies of the sacred volumes the visiting Japanese battleships as they touch American ports in the Pacific Agency.

East Indians

At one time, in late years, there were 5,000 East Indians (Hindus and Mohammedans) on the Pacific coast, and Bible work was done among them in six languages. Some 1,300 of these remain here. Though we have had the cooperation of returned missionaries, who have given valuable assistance in Bible work, the major portion of missionary activity among these East Indians has been done, among student and laboring classes, by the Rev. and Mrs. Theodore Fieldbrave. They are connected with the Baptist board, but have given interdenominational service to all the East Indians in the United States. Their Scripture distribution has largely been New Testaments. Miss Mary E. French, a returned missionary from India, with the help of the American Bible Society, has distributed some 5,000 Gospels, each with a personal letter, among the English-speaking natives. This service has been highly commended by leaders in mission work. Bishop Frank W. Warne said to Miss French, concerning this work, "You could not do a better work for India. Keep right on doing it."

Chinese

The Chinese on the Pacific coast have largely come from the Canton district of China, so Bible work has largely been in the Cantonese dialect. Through the aid of the missionaries among the Chinese, native pastors and special workers, and with the cooperation of the Chinese bookstores, we have had a good year in supplying the Bible needs of the Chinese on the Pacific coast.

"Glasses for the Spiritually Blind"

We have had an increasing number of Greeks interested in the Scriptures, and to our joy, a number of them are becoming active correspondents of the Bible Society. One such writes:

"I am a restaurant worker. My income is limited, but I am able, and get great joy in buying and circulating the Gospels. I feel as though I am giving glasses to the spiritually blind. Many times I am short of money, but my friends advance money to help and keep it going.

During the year, I have had the pleasure of distributing over 15,000 Gospels. I give them to people on the street-cars, stations, buses, depots, parks, etc. Sometimes I go down to the docks and pass out Gospels on the great trans-Pacific liners and navy boats anchored here. Sometimes I leave Gospels on the tables in the public library. All the Gospels of St. John that I gave last year were marked with a star pointing to an important text, especially those pertaining to salvation, as John 3:16. I use a rubber stamp for this purpose."

American Indians

We never remember having so many inquiries, or of so much work being done among the Indians, by correspondents as during the past year. This is not only true because of more organizations and united efforts being made to reach the Indians, but because of an increased interest on the part of the Indians themselves in the Book which their ancestors in the Northwest long ago desired and sent for over the long trail, that they might have the "white man's book."

The Rev. J. D. Wells, of Eureka, California, has given special service among the Indians. He has had several Indian congregations with from 25 to 70 converted Indians. He goes out and hunts and fishes with the Indians, and lives as they do on the hunt. When night comes, he builds a fire, wraps himself in a blanket and sleeps with his feet toward the fire. For five months Mr. Wells spent from three to five days a week doing special colportage and pioneering work, not only among the Indians, but among isolated ranchers. He states:

"I find many places where there are nothing but trails leading to the homes. I found one comfortable home, where the wife, though a high school graduate, had in twenty-four years been but twice away from the ranch, which could only be reached by trail. There was a family of eleven children taught by the wife. They had never been away from the ranch, to school or to church, and the oldest children are past twenty."

On the Trail

During the summer Mr. Wells sent a young colporteur and his wife some five hundred miles by trail. The mule carried a pack of Scriptures on one side, provisions on the other side, with bedding on top, and the colporteur and his wife walked. They traveled through the Klamath and Trinity River sections, away back where there were no churches, and where no preachers ever go. The Indians were extremely hospitable to them; and so were many of the isolated families who were cheered and comforted by their visits and the Scriptures they brought.

We know of no needier class in America than these original all-Americans in the West. Many of them have been living in poverty and isolation, and we rejoice exceedingly in the new interest being taken by the missionaries, and by the public.

Among the Sailors

A number of correspondents have been at work in the various ports in the Pacific Agency, particularly those about Puget Sound, in San Francisco Bay, San Pedro, Los Angeles, and San Diego. Among these are the chaplains of the United States Navy, the Army and Navy Y. M. C. A., the seamen's institutes in the harbor cities, the Floating Christian Endeavor Society, and nearly a score of special correspondents who have been distributing Scriptures among sailors.

Among the institutions, the Immanuel Mission to Seamen has been very active and has carried on a large work in many ports. Mr. Oscar Zimmerman, the superintendent of this mission, writes:

"During the last year the Word of God has been distributed in a number of ports, on board the ships, in various languages. It has been a year of real joy and blessing, and the seed sown in this way has found good soil, especially among the foreign sailors and passengers. A large number of Scripture portions have been purchased from the Pacific Agency of the American Bible Society, and fine cooperation has been shown by the Rev. A. Wesley Mell, the Secretary.

"Instead of going from door to door in our cities, as colporteurs do, we have gone from cabin to cabin door on ships of nearly every maritime nation, and have found on ships a large and promising field in which we have sown the seed. We have learned of the salvation of a Danish sea captain, who was very grateful for the Word left with him and over the dinner table told us of the way the Lord had blessed the reading of the Bible and had brought him to the Lord.

A Changed Officer

"On a Dutch steamer, a second officer was quite antagonistic to our Bible distribution; in fact, he kept many of the men away from the faith, because he was so loud in his denunciation of the Bible, and was very discourteous when our missionary came aboard and offered him a New Testament. It was only after some talk with this man, that he yielded and accepted the New Testament and promised to read it. Many weeks later this ship returned, and when the missionary went aboard, he found a very changed atmosphere spiritually. This officer who had been antagonistic now received him very differently and showed him a Bible that he had bought at another port. We were told by others of the change in this officer's life, and that they, too, had bought Bibles and were studying them together.

"In one of our ports a boat arrived with twenty-two nations represented, showing how God often on one single ship gives us wonderful opportunities. The passenger list showed six hundred and ninety-eight persons made up of

41 Jews	1 Danzig	40 Indians	30 Albanians
12 Swiss	22 Poles	1 Egyptian	9 Austrians
262 Greeks	3 Spaniards	21 Italians	118 Esthonians
42 Frenchmen	4 Syrians	1 Roumanian	2 Lithuanians
	80 Yugoslavs	9 Czechoslovaks	

Hawaiian Islands

Though we have had some special correspondents with certain denominational and independent missions and workers, our Pacific Agency has largely carried on its work among the islanders through the Board of the Hawaiian Evangelical Association, which reports that they have 106 paid workers in all the islands among the different races. This constitutes a splendid cooperative force. They have sold the Scriptures in English, Cebuan, Chinese, French, Greek, Hawaiian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, and Ilocano. English takes the lead, with Ilocano next; then the Hawaiian and Japanese. They have sold 3,400 volumes of Scriptures.

Through this Hawaiian board we are also able to serve with Scriptures the Methodist Episcopal, Salvation Army, Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., Seventh-day Adventists, Latter Day Saints, and the United States Army chaplains.

Alaska

There has been a number of correspondents in Alaska who have been active this year selling and distributing Scriptures. Nome, Sitka, Unalaska, Shishmaref, Anchorage, Juneau, and Nushagak are centers to which Scriptures have been sent. Presbyterians, Methodists, and Lutheran missionaries and government officials have cooperated. Mr. B. O. Tolentino, a Pacific Agency worker, reached some of the salmon canneries at Nushagak and did fine service in Bible distribution on the Alaskan fleets.

To the children of the North the Bible comes with blessed comfort and hope; but we know of no territory under our flag more in need of enlarged and aggressive service than Alaska. Here is a mighty territory that awaits extensive cultivation. We need special funds for this needy field.

Grants

The usual grants have been made to people in need of Scriptures and yet too poor to purchase; to missions, jails, orphanages, schools for dependent children, Indian reservations, relief homes, seamen's homes, and such individuals and institutions as we were able to assist with our limited appropriation. The need, however, has always been greater than our resources, and we sincerely trust that our Society will be furnished by its friends with more funds to meet these urgent appeals.

Many of our workers must remain unmentioned. They are like the heroes unnamed in the eleventh chapter of Hebrews. But their work abides, bringing golden memories, strengthening foundations of righteousness, and ushering in the Kingdom.

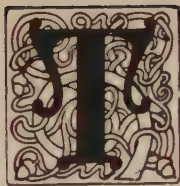
Some, to our sorrow, have been called home. They have left the Agency richer in blessed memories. Mr. C. W. Bowie, the Rev. W. A. Hough, W. A. James, Mrs. Howerton, and others have left a trailing light on their upward pathway. May God raise up others and prosper this glorious Word and work, until "the mountains and hills shall break into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands."

NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS



SMALL service, but important to those who need it, was rendered in seven of the languages of North American Indians during 1928. Volumes of Scripture were sent out in Dakota, Ojibwa, Navaho, Choctaw, Cherokee, Arapahoe, and Seneca, the quantity following the order named. Co-operation continued with the Committee of the Home Missions Council, and the Council of Women for Home Missions, who are stimulating Christian work in schools for Indian children.

FOREIGN AGENCIES



HE reports of the Foreign Agencies are presented in the order of their relation and geographical position to the United States. The date of organization together with the names of the Agency Secretaries and dates of appointment at the time this report goes to press are printed herewith for record and reference:

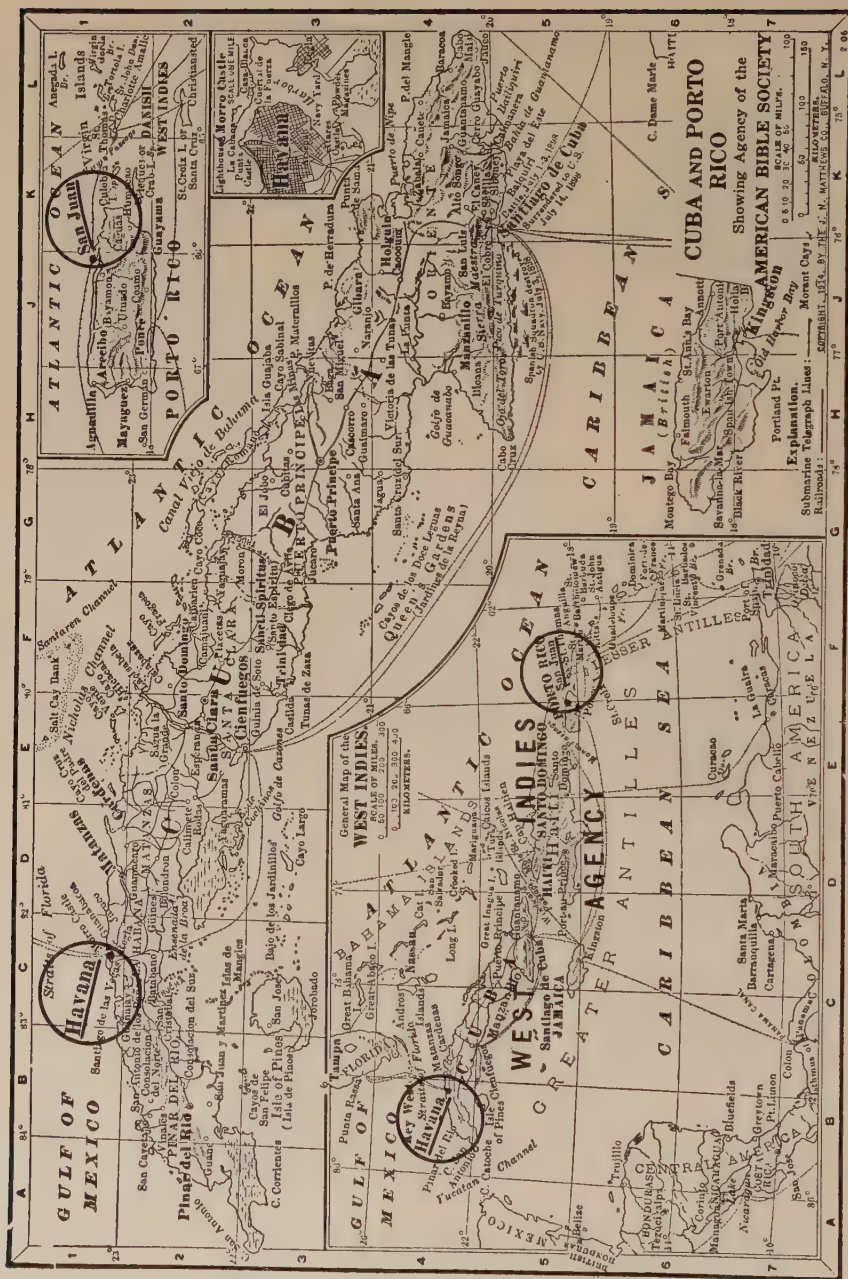
<i>Agency</i>	<i>Established</i>	<i>Agency Secretary</i>	<i>Appointed</i>
West Indies	1882,	José Marcial-Dorado, Ph.D., Havana, Cuba	1918
Mexico	1878,	H. T. Marroquin, Mexico City*	1928
Caribbean	1892,	Rev. Raymond R. Gregory, Cristobal, C.Z.	1920
Upper Andes	1919,	Rev. R. H. Milligan, D.D., Apartado 407, Lima, Peru	1927
La Plata	1864,	Rev. Paul Penzotti, Buenos Aires	1921
Brazil	1876,	Rev. Hugh C. Tucker, D.D., Rio de Janeiro	1887
Levant	1836,	Rev. J. Oscar Boyd, D.D., Vienna, Austria§	1926
Arabic-Levant	1921,	William S. Strong, Cairo, Egypt†	1927
		C. S. Bell, Acting Agency Secretary	
Philippines	1899,	Rev. G. Bruce Cameron, Manila	1921
Siam	1890,	Rev. Robert Irwin, Bangkok	1912
China	1876,	Rev. G. Carleton Lacy, D.D., Shanghai	1921
Japan	1876,	Rev. Karl E. Aurell, Tokyo‡	1927

*Appointed in charge in 1927.

§Appointed to Arabic-Levant Agency in 1921.

†Appointed Acting Agency Secretary in 1926.

‡Appointed Acting Agency Secretary in 1918.



WEST INDIES AGENCY

The Agency for the West Indies, established in 1882, embraces Cuba, Porto Rico, Haiti, Santo Domingo, the Virgin Islands, and the French islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe. José Marcial-Dorado, Ph.D., is the Agency Secretary, with headquarters at 126 San Miguel Street, Havana, Cuba.

The circulation for the year 1928 was 9,012 Bibles, 3,245 Testaments, and 75,009 portions, making a total of 87,266 volumes. The total circulation since the establishment of the Agency is now 1,276,630 volumes. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 50 colporteurs, 160 correspondents, and 32 volunteers.



An optimistic note rings out from this report. And it seems well based on substantial facts and sound reasons. The Agency has been able to increase its circulation; but the demand for the Scriptures still exceeds the supply. The Secretary is embarrassed by remonstrance and reproof from workers in his widely scattered field, because he does not supply the Scriptures wanted. He does not, because his stock is exhausted, and his money also—a disconcerting, and yet a happy, condition; so much more desirable than having more volumes than are wanted by the public. Reading the report also begets the opinion that the Secretary is studying field and method, and is reaching out to all classes and races—not being satisfied with taking the line of established custom or of least resistance or of greatest attraction.

We have had an increase of 14,997 volumes for the year 1928 as compared with the year 1927; and never in the ten previous years has the number of volumes distributed reached the figure of 87,266. The causes for this increase are:

- First—The Bible campaigns;
- Second—The greater interest of the churches in Bible work;
- Third—The increasing intellectual progress in this territory.

The Bible Campaigns

The Bible campaigns were of three classes:

1. Conferences in commercial, social, and cultural centers and in fraternal lodges.
2. The publication of instructive articles in the newspapers.
3. The distribution of pamphlets and small tracts.

The conferences had for their themes matters related to the importance of the Bible, and its influence on moral and intellectual order. Seventeen conferences have been held during the year. The instructive or educative articles were published in nine religious papers and four nonreligious, the total number of articles published in one or the other being thirty-one. These articles comprised at times notices of the work of our colporteurs and other comments on texts from the Bible and Scriptural readings. The leaflets distributed have been small pocket tracts of from eight to twelve pages edited and published by this Agency with the general title of "Biblical leaflets," which were sent at times with the letters that went out from our office, and at other times handed by the colporteurs to the people in the streets. The number of pamphlets thus distributed amounted to 12,000.

Greater Interest of the Churches in Bible Work

As testimony of the greater interest manifested by the churches in our work, we cite the following: Our workers have received this year a greater number of invitations to take part in religious services than in former years, there being delivered seventy-seven sermons and addresses in Sunday schools and Christian Endeavor meetings. The services for Bible Sunday were held in twenty-seven churches more than last year, and the Secretary was invited to take part in thirty-five of these meetings. The offerings have kept up with slight diminution, in spite of there having occurred the terrific cyclone that caused such havoc in Porto Rico, and notwithstanding also that the economic situation of these territories is exceedingly straitened and deplorable.

The Intellectual Progress in These Territories

It is a consolation that the principal territories comprising this Agency, in spite of their material poverty, have not ceased to cultivate their intelligence. The schools and educational societies in Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Republic of Santo Domingo have been increased, and the number of those who can read and wish to read has become larger; therefore the number of those who read the Bible and desire it and learn to love it, is greater. Also, many more people visit our bookstore and purchase Bibles—persons who do not belong to any church, but who have heard the Bible spoken of by the colporteurs or mentioned in the periodicals or pamphlets.

The New Testament in the Pan American Conference

In the year 1928 there occurred in Havana an event of worldwide importance—the Pan American Conference. We wished to salute the 187 delegates of the twenty-one nations of America, in the name of the American Bible Society, the society of all America most interested in the great Book of Peace: the Bible. We talked with various sympa-

thizers of the Bible work, who bought 200 Testaments of the popular low-priced edition and placed them at the disposition of this Agency, that we might make the distribution. Each delegate received one of these Testaments with a few short lines of presentation. Fifty-seven of the delegates replied, thanking our Agency for this attention.

The Bible for President Coolidge

The Association of Ministers of Havana and the Secretary of the West Indies Agency entered into an agreement to present to President Coolidge a Bible in Spanish. In the scant forty-eight hours that President Coolidge spent in Havana, it was not possible for us to obtain a personal interview with the President of the United States; but the United States Ambassador in this city very amiably accepted the commission of making the presentation of this souvenir-gift from the Christian ministers of Cuba and the representative of the American Bible Society. Before leaving Cuba, President Coolidge received the Bible in Spanish, with a short letter in English giving the most interesting data regarding the missionary work in Cuba, and the circulation of the Bible in the West Indies. The President replied, through the Ambassador, expressing his sincere gratitude for "a gift that will be for me," he said, "a permanent memento."

The Bible in the Medical Congress, and in the Congress of Journalists

After the Pan American Conference, there took place in Havana two other important conferences of an international character: the Medical Congress and that of "The Latin Press." We were not in a position to make a general donation as in the case of the former conference; but we had the pleasure of putting into the hands of the presidents of these two congresses two Bibles, with the salutation of the American Bible Society. And we are pleased to inform you that one of the journalistic delegates said to us: "If this book has not yet transformed the world, I am sure that it will transform it."

What We Have Seen in Our Travels in the West Indies Territory

In Cuba, we have seen, in various months of the year, Bibles solicited from the colporteurs in the cities, people asking them on the street to be shown the books. In the villages, we have seen persons going to the houses where it was known the colporteurs were staying, to examine and buy the books; and, in the country, we have seen the workmen at the sugar mills seated about the persons who were reading the Bible, and listening with interest, asking afterward for explanations and prayer. During our visit to Porto Rico in June of last year, we saw our correspondents, the majority of whom are ministers, carrying a small notebook in their pocket, in which they eagerly jotted down the requests for Bibles in their respective fields of labor, to make orders

later for the following month for us to fill from our bookstore. In the Republic of Santo Domingo, during our visit there in May, as also in the city of Santo Domingo, our stock of Scriptures was exhausted in three weeks; and, in a very few days after its arrival, a shipment of Bibles was absorbed by orders from many towns and different places in the country.

Who Acquire the Bible

It is interesting to observe that, until five years ago, two-thirds of the Bibles which we distributed in this territory were acquired principally to supply the faithful of the churches. The colporteurs and correspondents had the largest number of their buyers in the missions. Now, nearly the contrary occurs. The greater part of the Bibles distributed by the colporteurs and correspondents are not for church members, but for persons who have not yet come into the church. The Bibles provided for non-Christians are more than those supplied for believers. Also, it is remarkable that the majority of the persons acquiring the Bible are children and young persons. Most of our colporteurs and correspondents have inquired insistently regarding the ages of the buyers, and they say: "Of every 100 persons who purchase the Bible, 50 are young, 30 are children, and 20, elderly." Finally, it is important to state that the number of distinguished personages acquiring the Bible is increasing. Of well-known persons the classes most interested seem to be: school-teachers, public and private; next, lawyers; then, physicians; and later, journalists. Manufacturers, merchants, and artists are the last to become purchasers; but, in some cities, the number from these classes that secure the Bible is considerable.

The Great Success of the American Bible Society

I note a curious fact. The West Indies Agency has a goodly number of Catholic clients, which is augmented year by year. Here is the explanation: The Catholic bishops and clergy say that it is well to read the Bible, and some say that it is necessary, but that there is a complete Bible and an incomplete one. The former is the one sold by Catholic houses and bookstores, and the second or latter is that sold by the Protestant Societies. The faithful Catholics go in search for their Catholic Bible, and it is rarely found. When one is found, it is seldom possible to acquire it, as the cheapest copy costs \$14. Nearly all these Catholics, annoyed by these difficulties and this exploitation, secure information about the so-called Protestant Bible, and are astonished that they can buy a copy for 57 cents. "It does not matter if it lacks some books, which perhaps, or probably, are not the most important ones," they say. And the result is that the extremely low prices of the American Bible Society, and the ever-increasing production of the Bibles, attracts a notable success and draws Catholics to the Bible, converting them later into true Christians.

The Classes of Bibles Preferred

Our experience leads us to affirm the following: The people of the West Indies territories do not seek the Bible from a spirit of curiosity, but of investigation, study, and knowledge to be gained. If they had curiosity only, it would suffice—and they would be satisfied—to obtain and read a portion only, or a Testament; but this is not the case. They wish the entire Bible—which is the reason that the sale and distribution of Bibles increases in greater proportion than that of the Testaments. As a general thing also, the people desire Bibles with large type. Notwithstanding the foregoing, we have observed the outstanding fact that many persons wish to obtain a Bible after having acquired a Testament or a Gospel.

The Increase of Languages

It is a reality, also, that in the territories of this Agency the Bible is each year circulated in a greater number of tongues. This is due to the fact that many foreign colonies, supplied in these territories or through them, are gaining a larger knowledge of the Bible by reason of our campaigns of propaganda and publicity. In the ports, in the country, and in the commercial zones our colporteurs and subagents, our correspondents and voluntary workers, find Chinese, Poles, Russians, Germans, Italians, Hungarians, and Hebrews; and always there is an opportunity to place the Word of God in their hands. There is, too, a demand for the classic tongues of Greek and Latin, as we have supplied copies to the universities and scholastic centers. And there are not a few persons interested in Esperanto, and each year some copies are sold. The languages in which the Bible has been sold through this Agency during the year, are as follows: Arabic, Catalan, Chinese, Dutch, English, Esperanto, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Syriac.

Those Who Have Distributed the Scriptures

Fifty-one colporteurs have dedicated themselves to the distribution of the Bibles, six of whom devote their entire time to the work, and the others part time only. Of these 51, there are 39 directly interested in the active work of the churches. They are ministers, presidents of young people's societies and Sunday-school teachers. The remaining twelve are industrial merchants and field workers. Also, very excellent distribution work has been accomplished by 160 correspondents scattered throughout Cuba and Porto Rico. These correspondents are mostly ministers and mission workers. Finally, we are gratified to state that 32 voluntary workers have offered part of their time for the distribution work without commission or compensation of any sort, and, in addition, have paid their own expenses to carry the Bible to some towns.

The Impression Held of Bible Work by Those Engaged in It

As these pages lack space for extensive descriptions more or less interesting, we shall only relate now in brief form and in a general manner the opinions and criterions gathered from the reports of the workers, from which we have culled what we consider the principal note.

The Colporteurs: The public has changed in these latter years. Previously we were received in some places with indifference, in others with contempt, in some with hostility, and in very few with sympathy. Today, nearly everywhere we are received with joy and affection.

The Correspondents: Formerly it was necessary to do much talking and distribute much printed matter, to interest the people in obtaining and reading the Bible; but today it is not so necessary. It suffices now to show the Bible, to awaken in them the desire to possess it.

The Subagents: There is no doubt about the gain we have made in the distribution of the Bible. Before we had to spend much time in studying how to reach the persons, who, on account of their ignorance or being badly advised, did not wish to hear of the Bible; but all that is changed. We go out into the street and always find some one who accepts the Bible with pleasure. We write to whatever unknown person and nearly always secure a buyer and a good reader. We make a call and wherever we speak of, and present, the Bible, we meet with success.

The Voluntary Workers: For many years it was thought that the work of proposing and presenting the Bible to the public was difficult and ungrateful. We believe that the times have changed greatly, as, at least in the West Indies, that does not occur at all. We are well received by all, and on numerous occasions are called in by persons who wish to hear the Bible read and commented upon.

Where the Sale and Distribution of the Bible Meet with Greatest Success

Opinions are various: The colporteurs believe that going from street to street will give the best results. The correspondents believe that by visits and reunions previously prepared the distribution is splendid and successful. The subagents opine the same as the correspondents and further indicate visits to societies of an educational and commercial character. The voluntary workers show no preference for a determined plan or manner of procedure. One naturally deduces from these opinions that each sees the greater success in the work as carried out individually by himself, and, therefore, that all roads and places are good field for the propagation and distribution of the Bible, if faith is great and enthusiasm abounds.

Where There Is the Greatest Difficulty or Resistance

It is not among men of intelligence, who are accustomed to listen. It is not among men of indifference, who are wont to be conquered

sooner or later by insistence. It is with ignorant persons, who are soon caught by practical fanatics, and who devote themselves to idolatrous cults known as spiritualists and witchcraft that abound in these territories. However, we believe that this resistance is well-nigh broken down by the great campaign of Biblical propaganda which each year is more extended throughout the West Indian territory.

Where Is the Greatest Obstacle to a Greater Circulation

The greatest obstacle lies in the means of communication, which are scarce and expensive. Only in Porto Rico are ways of communication prompt and relatively cheap, due to the island being small and the highways plentiful and good, and the towns are close to each other. This is not the case in Cuba and the other countries, more extensive in area and less populous. In the near future, however, a change is expected in these conditions by reason of aerial communications which are being developed, and stations established in all these territories.

What Is Said of the Christian Future of the West Indies

Missionaries, merchants, statesmen, all who know the West Indies more or less, state the following:

"From the geographical position of these territories, between North and South America; from the special conditions of the race that peoples this territory, the West Indies will be the center of an intellectual and spiritual movement that will grasp and absorb the best of the two civilizations found working in America; it will take the best of the Anglo-Saxons and the best of the Latins."

What the West Indies Expect of the Americans

In one of the most important social clubs to which we were invited to give some reports in regard to the work of the American Bible Society, upon finishing our talk, one of the most distinguished members said to us:

"Sometimes I have wondered what we should expect from the Americans, and have asked myself that question. Now, after listening to your talk, I can say: That we do not wish from the Americans money, nor commerce, nor industries; * * * that which we do wish is that you do not fail to send us your Bibles."

MEXICO AGENCY

The Mexico Agency was established in 1878. It covers the Republic of Mexico. Mr. H. T. Marroquin, Apartado 1373, Mexico City, Mexico, is the Agency Secretary.

The circulation for the year 1928 was 8,486 Bibles, 11,113 Testaments, and 40,028 portions, making a total of 59,627 volumes. The total circulation since the establishment of the Agency is now 1,712,477 volumes. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 26 colporteurs, 177 correspondents, and 32 volunteers.



ATHER unique was the experience of the writer of this report, during 1928. The year was only fairly begun when he was advanced to the full charge of the Agency as its Secretary. Immediately thereafter, he was selected, by those with whom the choice lay, to represent evangelical Mexico at the Jerusalem Missionary Conference. On him fell also the planning and direction of the celebration of the Jubilee of the Mexico Agency, the sixth of the Foreign Agencies to have been at work for fifty years, Levant, La Plata, China, Japan, and Brazil Agencies having had their celebrations. At the same time, on him lay the responsibility of directing and carrying on the regular work at a time when religious matters were not moving smoothly in the land. Altogether, Mr. Marroquin's inauguration into his large responsibility has not been an easy or simple affair. But the record of the year which follows speaks well for his zeal, tact, and success.

In the providence of God, we have been associated with the glorious work of the Bible Agency in Mexico during a period of eight years, six of which we served as Assistant Secretary to the Rev. A. H. Mellen, whom we shall always hold in loving remembrance; at his resignation we were invited to take provisional charge of the work; this we did for a year and two months, and the remaining ten months of 1928 we served as Secretary.

It was near the end of the year 1927 that we were notified by the late General Secretary of the American Bible Society, Dr. William I. Haven, that we should report at headquarters in New York City early in the following year, in order to arrange about our future relationship to the Society. So, in February, 1928, we made the trip and appeared before the Board of Managers. After quite a number of questions and

exchange of impressions, we were officially appointed Secretary for the American Bible Society in Mexico. With fear and trembling we accepted the responsibility of this important position, given for the first time to a native. We realized that we could meet this great responsibility only through divine help and the sympathy and support of the missionaries in the field, the native pastors, and other fellow-workers.

Our Visit to the Holy Land

During our stay in New York arranging affairs with the Bible Society, we were invited to attend a meeting of the Central Committee on Cooperation in Latin America, at which meeting they were to discuss certain phases of the evangelical work in Mexico, and also appoint a delegate from this country to the International Missionary Council to be held in Jerusalem from March 24 to April 8, 1928. The committee announced that our well-known educator and friend, Prof. Andrés Osuna, had declined his appointment as delegate because of the many demands of his new position as superintendent of education in the state of Nuevo León.

Our name was in the list of the alternates, and the committee urged our acceptance as delegate. We insisted that some other of the alternates be chosen; but the trend of affairs was such that we realized it was our duty, as well as privilege, to accept this delicate mission. So that, immediately after our appointment as Secretary of the Agency in Mexico, we were released for this unexpected trip to represent our native land in the Missionary Council of Jerusalem.

By means of the Christian press and talks in the churches and mission schools we have made known some of the work of this important council, and also some of the many and never-to-be-forgotten impressions we received in the land of the people of Israel and of our Saviour. The whole trip was a great inspiration and blessing personally and to our family, and we trust that, in some degree, either directly or indirectly, it has been and will continue to be a blessing to the churches and to our Bible work in general; for we are doing all in our power to pass on to others the blessing that has come to us. A visit to the Holy Land had been the dream of our life, and we cannot but thank God for the unexpected providence by which this dream was realized. We learned many, many things; we were confirmed in respect to others; but, best of all, our faith in Christ was strengthened, our Bible was made a new Book, and our desire that others should know and study this precious Book was greatly intensified.

The Jubilee of the Mexico Bible Agency, September 30— October 7, 1928

It was our purpose in the beginning of this year to celebrate the jubilee of this Agency of the American Bible Society on the first week of June; but, on account of the unexpected trip of the Secretary to at-

tend the International Missionary Council held in Jerusalem early in the spring, we postponed our special programs to the first week of October. There were three sections of our program that was to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of this Agency. All three were carried out exactly according to the printed programs.

The Mornings.—Every morning we had what we call our colporteurs' institute. It was held in the Baptist Church. There were ten colporteurs, out of the twenty-one we had, who were able to come to the city. These ten colporteurs represented nine states of the Republic and six Christian denominations. (This very item will inform our friends as to our decided purpose of covering the whole country with the Bible distribution, both geographically and interdenominationally.) Members of the churches were welcomed to attend the institute; so we had an average attendance of about sixty persons every morning. Those morning hours were of real intensive Bible study, methods in colportage work, and personal evangelism. Mr. A. B. de Roos, director of the Prayer Fellowship movement in Mexico, the local pastors, and the teachers of the Union Seminary gave us magnificent help by leading us in the Bible studies. The whole of the institute was an inspiration; surely it was an initiator of better and larger ideas and plans for the work of our colporteurs. We could see that not only the colporteurs, but everybody who attended were with receptive minds and readiness of heart.

The Afternoons.—The colporteurs went about the streets of this capital city in the afternoons of the institute week, doing good through their personal talks and specially through the distribution "in season and out of season" of the Word of God. The ten colporteurs sold, in the total eighteen or twenty hours' time which they employed during that week, 73 Bibles, 76 New Testaments, and 180 portions of the Scriptures. They were not molested in the least while doing their street work. No one can tell how many eternal blessings these 329 volumes of the Holy Scriptures will bring to their new possessors, certain as we are that His Word will not return unto Him void.

The Evenings.—There was an earnest desire on the part of the pastors and of their churches to cooperate to the best success of the night popular meetings. We had had a very heavy rainy season for two or three weeks; but it stopped the day before we started our special gatherings. So we had beautiful weather all through our jubilee week.

The Evening Meetings

There was a gathering every night of about 450 persons as an average. All were eager to hear the special lectures. Each meeting was held in a different church. This gave an opportunity to ten churches to prepare their own problems and to cultivate closer relations between both pastors and congregations. Each congregation enjoyed the program of the sister church. The Agency gave suggestions as to the

church programs and offered to contribute with a different lecture and lecturer for each night and for the two extra popular meetings on the morning and afternoon of the last Sunday of the jubilee.

The lectures and lecturers were ten and are as follows:

"The Dynamics of the Christian Faith"—Rev. Eleazar Z. Pérez.

"The Bible in Life and Death"—Rev. Alejandro Treviño Ojeda.

"The Bible and the Culture of the Nations"—Prof. Leopoldo García.

"The Bible and Childhood"—Dr. Vicente G. Santín.

"The Bible and Its Enemies"—Dr. Pedro Flores Valderrama.

"The Bible Societies and Their Work"—Sr. H. T. Marroquin.

"Protestantism and Democracy"—Dr. Victoriano D. Báez.

"The Bible and Youth"—Rev. Ernesto Barocio.

"The Influence of the Bible in National Culture"—Rev. Ignacio D. Chagoyán.

"Religious Education as a Factor in the Development of a Race"—Dr. Vicente Mendoza.

Every program was very interesting. We had nice music, beautiful songs, lovely poetry, reading of the Scriptures by the blind, dramas, testimonies of the people regarding the power of the gospel in its written form to change lives, and narratives from the lips of our colporteurs about their experiences in this noble work. We heard also fervent prayers of thanksgiving to God for the wonderful work of the Bible Societies all over the world, and specially for the great blessing the American Bible Society has been to Mexico during the last fifty years and even more, through the distribution of the Scriptures. The names of the different Secretaries who have been in charge of this Agency in past years were mentioned with gratitude and love. These were the Rev. Arthur Gore, the Rev. H. P. Hamilton, Mrs. H. P. Hamilton, the Rev. F. W. Jordan, and the Rev. Arthur H. Mellen.

Messages of Congratulation

We were in the midst of our jubilee celebrations in this city when we received and read publicly the following encouraging message from our Home Office:

"The Board of Managers extends to Mexico Agency heartiest congratulations and best wishes on jubilee.—Second Corinthians, Nine, Verse Ten."

We received also other manifestations of congratulations and best wishes from ecclesiastical bodies and from individuals.

Our headquarters in New York received the following spontaneous and cheerful letter:

"The National Council of Evangelical Churches in Mexico takes pleasure in sending to the American Bible Society most sincere congratulations by reason of the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the Bible Agency in the Mexican Republic; at the same time extends to you the profound gratitude of our evangelical Mexican people for the delicate and very noble work which the Agency has carried on so

systematically and efficiently in the way of distributing the Holy Scriptures among us.

"We take advantage of this opportunity to express to your glorious institution, that we feel that it is an honor for the evangelical work in general in our country and for the officers of this Council in particular, that the American Bible Society in this memorable year of its labors in Mexico has appointed as Secretary of its Agency a national layman, Mr. H. T. Marroquín, who is at the present time secretary of this National Council.

"We pray that God may abundantly bless the great and unfinished work of the American Bible Society. Rest assured that it is our desire to take just as active a part as it is possible for us to do toward supporting the Bible cause through the well-managed Agency in Mexico. Yours in Christ.

"National Council of Evangelical Churches in Mexico

"MIGUEL Z. GARZA, President."

The Mexico City Union Seminary also sent to our Home Office a similar letter.

Really, those days of our jubilee were glorious to us who now bear the responsibility of the Bible work in Mexico. May God give us more strength and wisdom from on high to continue the construction of this building whose foundations have so firmly been laid even by the blood of the martyrs. Yes, the pioneer missionaries and native workers and colporteurs did suffer; we are enjoying the softness of the earth they tilled, although we are still doing pioneer work.

The Secretary's Travels in the Country

During the year 1928 we visited 85 churches, 10 mission schools, 1 theological seminary, three Bible institutes, two vacation Bible schools, two annual conferences, one deaconess Bible school and 1 Christian sanatorium. These visits were made in sixteen states of this republic, the distance traveled was 3,634 miles and the time occupied was 47 days. This much we were able to do besides the three months occupied in the trip to New York and Palestine. We consider these visits one of the most important parts of our program as representative of the Bible Society; for we learn many things that help us in the administrative work of the office, and, besides, we always go forth in the name of our Lord and Master, trusting that he may use us to give a spiritual uplift to each congregation visited and stir them to greater interest in the Bible cause, which is so fundamental in the establishment and propagation of all Christian work.

The Use of the Magic Lantern

We have had splendid results in using the magic lantern to illustrate some of our talks and lectures, specially those in reference to the world-wide Bible circulation and our visit to Palestine.

Since most of the Mexican churches do not have social halls, and we have to give these views in the main auditorium, we are always very careful to explain our purpose and do everything possible to maintain the proper reverence for the house of God. We tell the people that we are using this simple instrument for the glory of God in their edification in Bible knowledge and not for their diversion, just as we use piano or organ to help in our worship; for why should we give over to the world all of man's useful inventions, since the evil is not in the instrument but in the misdirected use of it?

Bible Distribution

The Bible is being distributed by means of our colporteurs, the native pastors and lay workers, and the missionaries, besides those sold at our depository in Mexico City. The distribution is as follows:

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Volumes</i>
Colporteurs	4,626	3,278	26,532	34,436
Correspondents	3,464	7,573	8,297	19,334
Depository	367	197	1,318	1,890
			Blind 8	
Donations	29	65	3,873	3,967
Totals	8,486	11,113	40,028	59,627

We had placed our goal for this jubilee year at 75,000 volumes and feel quite sure we would have reached it if we could have had the books needed on hand; but our experience was similar to that of the Agencies in other countries of Latin America, in that the demand was greater than the supply from the Bible House. Of course, this is a good sign, and we thank God and take courage. Although we failed to reach our ideal, the total for this year was 12,112 volumes more than the year 1927.

Here, in Mexico, we are noting an increasing demand for the Bible in the rural districts. This is in part the result of the work of our government in constructing many highways and establishing an unprecedented number of rural schools, which are attended day and night by children and grown people. If this good work continues, within ten or fifteen years from now it will be difficult to find a Mexican, even among the most humble, who cannot read and write. We trust our evangelical churches will recognize their responsibility in this educational campaign and will enter this wide-open door with the Bible, whose "entrance giveth light," before the people begin to feed on immoral novels and sensational newspapers.

We also sent out from our office and depository the following: 35,617 tracts, 12,000 pocket calendars, 1,473 letters, and 5,767 postal packages.

We have given material at different times to our interdenominational paper *El Mundo Cristiano*, that made a total of twenty pages besides a special Bible number. We have also had notices in other Christian papers, and our advertisement of Bibles has been published in several of them free of charge.

The Work of the Colporteurs during 1928

Our total number of colporteurs has been twenty-five, representing the following denominations: Presbyterian, Associated Reformed Presbyterian, Methodist Episcopal, Methodist Episcopal South, Baptist, Nazarene, Pilgrim, Disciples, Friends, Independent, and the Prayer Fellowship. The following statistics show that the colporteurs did more than one half of the total Bible distribution during the year: 4,148 Bibles, 3,013 Testaments, 26,048 portions, making a total of 33,209 volumes. We have 19 colporteurs in our list for 1929.

Offerings for the Bible Cause

We had hoped that the voluntary offerings from congregations and individuals for 1928 would exceed all other years, since mention was so often made of its being our jubilee year; but such was not the case. While some churches gave more, others gave less, than heretofore, and others failed to give any amount at all. This may have been in some cases from lack of propaganda on the part of the workers; but it must be remembered that the economical condition of the country has been very critical. The amount donated for 1928 was only thirty pesos (\$15) more than the preceding year. The gifts by denominations were as follows:

Presbyterian, \$291.96; Congregational, \$81.64; Methodist Episcopal, \$77.40; Methodist Episcopal South, \$62.11; Presbyterian Associate and Reformed, \$45.05; Baptist, \$40.50; Nazarene, \$19.09; Pilgrim, \$11.78; Disciples, \$14.60; Friends, \$7.50; Interdenominational, \$6; Assemblies of God, \$4.65; Seventh-day Adventists, \$2.50; and Individuals, \$174.56—total, \$839.34.

This amount offered for the Bible distribution has come from 106 congregations and 23 individuals, representing 13 denominations and 24 out of the 31 states of this republic.

The Advisory Committee of Our Bible Agency

Perhaps our correspondents and other friends with whom we are in more or less constant correspondence have noticed that our letter-head now bears the following list of persons composing our Advisory Committee: Dr. Vicente Mendoza, Rev. Eleazar Z. Pérez, Dr. J. P. Hauser, Dr. W. A. Ross, Dr. Victoriano D. Báez, Rev. Asunción Blanco R., Rev. Ernesto Barocio, Dr. Vicente G. Santín, and Mr. Moody Edwards. We did not mean to be officious in these appointments and appreciate the kindness of these brethren in accepting. They are among those most intimately related with our Bible work, and to them we can go for advice and shall appreciate any suggestion from them for the good of the work.

Disadvantages of Free Bible Distribution

We wish to say a few words in regard to the practice of free distribution of the Bible and its portions; for in our medium it has an

unfavorable psychological effect. This effect is the result of the so-called religious culture which the masses have received from Romanism. We know that such culture is deceit and fraud and is not by any means founded on the Sacred Scriptures, which the Roman Catholic Church possesses. Now, how shall we deal with a people who, for generations, have been taught to pay in cash for everything pertaining to their religion? They have also been taught from the pulpit and in the confessional that they should tear or burn all literature given to them gratis, especially the "Protestant Bible." They are told that the author of all such literature is the devil, and that the Protestant Bible is a mutilated book. There is also a pretense at patriotism in this Roman Catholic religious culture, and they are taught that Protestantism is an underhanded effort to capture peacefully Mexico for the Government of the United States.

All such false teaching evidences itself and will come to an end, in spite of Papal opposition; but, in the meantime, how are we to meet and deal with this perverse generation so full of superstition, idolatry, and prejudice? The only answer we can give is, Meet them with the lamp of truth,—the Bible,—and lead them to the feet of Christ, where, through faith in him, they may be eternally saved; but let us not fail to present it in a way that will cause them fully to appreciate the value of the Book.

It is easy enough to hand out books free of charge; but it is a delicate and difficult task to do personal work, to interest the people in the contents of the Book and then sell it or, in some cases, present it. We can never hope to win respect for the Bible if we hand it out like circulars distributed for some wordly entertainment. Let us meet superstition and prejudice with tact, judgment, prudence, and also respect for ourselves and for the cause we represent, not failing in a great love for lost souls. All this is needed for personal contact with individuals. We do not oppose an occasional gift of the Bible when the time and circumstances demand it; but it is natural for one to appreciate that which has cost him something.

Our Bible Agency always advises our colporteurs and other workers not to give away books nor to make discounts, nor to sell on credit, except in special cases where all the circumstances justify the case. We are selling the Bibles and Testaments at a price that does not cover the cost of production; nevertheless we sometimes hear complaints that the books are not given away or are not as cheap as they formerly were, though we know that the majority of these complaints never come from the best Christians.

1928, a Year of Testing and Sacrifice for Mexico

With nations, as with individuals, there are times of special suffering, test, and sacrifice, which serve to purify their own spirit and clarify their relations with others.

The cruel assassination of our President elect, General Alvaro Obregón, not only brought grief and political uncertainty, but even worse: it filled us with shame as we stood before the world and the God of nations. But even this much-lamented event has had some good results in unifying and crystallizing the principles and purposes of the late revolution and in presenting a solid front in the determined effort to establish a liberal and stable government—the very thing Obregón was striving for.

We have had a year of strained economical conditions because of a short harvest and limited work in the mines; we have had disasters from floods and from earthquakes, especially in the State of Oaxaca; we have had insurrections led by fanatical Catholics, and many other unfortunate happenings. But, in spite of all these things, the man with the "iron will," now ex-President of this Republic, General Plutarco Elías Calles, successfully and peacefully ended his period of four years as President, during which time he accomplished more for the good of the nation than has ever been done in any other administration.

Let us mention some of the most important things that stand out to his credit, not only before this nation, but also before the whole world: the balance of the public finances; the establishment of the Bank of Mexico and of the Agricultural Bank and Trust Company; the payments on the foreign debt faithfully met; the building of many highways; the construction of irrigation plants; the establishment of a boarding school in Mexico City for full-blooded Indians; the establishment of more than three thousand rural schools and five state agricultural schools; the development of aviation, especially postal and passenger service; the interstate telephone service, as well as international service; the conservation of our national sovereignty and progress in friendly relations with other nations. His greatest and noblest characteristic—which, by some, has been considered his greatest defect—consisted in his having done his duty in enforcing the Mexican Constitution. Surely history will not fail to grant General Calles the place to which he is entitled.

A Closing Word

We wish to add that for us, personally, the year 1928 has been the shortest but greatest year of our life. It has demanded more consecration, more concentration, and more energy and courage; but, in turn, it has brought us many more blessings and honors than we deserved. But we, together with our family, place all these blessings and honors at the feet of our Lord and Saviour while we pray, "Lord, so teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

We are grateful to our friends, brethren and colaborers who have helped us in putting into circulation a maximum number of volumes of the Holy Scriptures during this jubilee year of our Agency.



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CARIBBEAN AGENCY

The Caribbean Agency was established in 1892. It covers all the republics of Central America and the Canal Zone, and includes Venezuela, and the upper part of Colombia. The Rev. R. R. Gregory is Agency Secretary, with headquarters at the Bible House, Cristobal, Canal Zone. The circulation for the year 1928 was 9,884 Bibles, 11,878 Testaments, and 76,691 portions, making a total of 98,453 volumes. The total circulation since the establishment of the Agency is now 1,147,415 volumes. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 14 colporteurs, and 63 correspondents.



EARLIER pages show how a fuller picture of the work of a Home Agency is caught from the other side of the world. Here, on the other hand, is an Agency that benefits from the first near view. During the furlough of the Secretary, one not new to the work in foreign fields, but new to this particular field, has been in charge. And the report reveals not only his sympathetic enthusiasm and understanding, but a marked ability to link the story of the year with the work of previous years, in a fascinating way. Rev. H. C. McKinney, for several years sub-Agent in Bolivia for the Upper Andes Agency, on his way back to his homeland after ten years of service in South America, kindly agreed to stop at Cristobal and supervise the work of the Agency. The power of the Word to grip a soul and transform a life and through it pass on the blessing, is repeatedly revealed from the striking examples in the pages which follow.

The colporteur is essentially a seed sower. Picture one of these faithful men at work on the streets of a Latin-American town, bearing the characteristic equipment of his calling—a bag of books at his side, hung by a strap over the opposite shoulder. This is, in fact, the origin of the word “colporteur,” which by its derivation means “one who carries on his neck.” Here we have the spiritual antitype of the farmer with his slung sack of choice seed wheat, ready to broadcast in the old-fashioned manner.

Or, picture him as he sets off on an extended tour, driving one or more “burros,” those beasts well described as ubiquitous, because truly indispensable on the sketchy country roads of these raw, young republics, well laden with boxes and bales of the same printed Word. Inasmuch as he himself is a product and proof of the regenerative power

of this kind of gospel propagation, he believes in the value of the seed which he carries. He is not going forth to reap. The fruit-gatherer goes out with his bag empty and returns with it filled; the colporteur starts out with full bag and boxes and returns with them empty. Another, he hopes, will reap fruit as a result of this day's work; he is bent on sowing the seed.

Not often will he find soil plowed and prepared to receive the Word. His lot are the wayside and the stony places, and he is aware of the thorns springing up to prevent the growth of the seed, and the black fowls of the air that will snatch it away, as he turns his back on this town and goes on to the other cities also.

Hard hearts and hard words, prejudice, indifference and insults—these will he encounter as sure as the Word he carries is true. But he is supported by this great declaration: "Blessed are ye when men shall revile you, and persecute you, for my sake." And this other, which may be styled the colporteur's special Beatitude: "Blessed are ye that sow beside all waters."

The Llanos of the Orinoco River Basin

During the summer the Agency Secretary visited Venezuela. He was looking forward to a personal visit with one of those rare souls of the band of colporteurs, Diego Martinez. Don Diego had come to northern Venezuela to recuperate after a strenuous campaign. Tropical fevers had worn his body to a shadow, but the call of the field was so strong that he had again gone south, into the llanos of the Apure River, a tributary of the Orinoco, before the Secretary arrived in Caracas.

One of our faithful correspondents, Mr. Harold Legge, complied with our request to write something about Don Diego and the field to which he was giving his life. Mr. Legge had just returned from an eight months' campaign in the vast llanos, with headquarters at San Fernando de Apure, about two hundred miles from Caracas. His letter vividly describes that country:

"One really has to see the llanos of the Apure in order to understand and visualize them. Only as one has had that wonderful experience can he enter into the problems of the work, and appreciate the fatigue and incessant drain upon the system, physically and spiritually, occasioned by laboring there. And only so can one enter into the glorious exhilaration of all that the Bible work means, the wondrous holy romance of it all, that thrills one, though he be perspiring beneath a merciless sun, his feet blistering as he tramps through the burning sands, with his tongue glued to his mouth, which in turn is filled with dust. All discomforts fade away before the realized vision, the Word of God placed in the cottages which here and there dot these torrid plains, and plentifully distributed in the straggling 'vecindarios' or neighborhoods, that make a sort of human chain from San Fernando de Apure to San Fernando de Atabapo, in the far off, almost unreachable interior.

Don Diego's Journey

"Offhand I cannot say when it was that Don Diego, along with a companion worker, first made the journey from Caracas into the almost limitless and trackless plains that are known as the llanos. Even where now there is some sort of roadway in the dry season, then there was none, and, of course, San Fernando is but the gateway to the llanos properly speaking. It took them one month to cross to San Fernando on foot with burros laden with boxes of Scriptures. It is now done in two days by auto. Once darkness and rain overtook them, and their burros went astray. When, after hours of tramping, they came to a house, they were refused admittance by a frightened old woman. At last, more dead than alive, hungry and thirsty, wet and weary, they found shelter with an uncouth cattle herder. A blazing sun greeted them in the morning, along with the missing burros and a crowd of interested people, who apparently had sprung up like elfins out of the earth, in reality from the palm leaf cottages that are almost hidden in the sands and tufted and burned vegetation. The colporteurs were quick to seize the opportunity, and when they resumed their journey, the burros traveled considerably lighter, and Scriptures were being read in that remote place.

"On another occasion, almost perishing with thirst, they came to a filthy pool of absolutely rotten water. It was that or nothing. They strained it through their handkerchiefs and drank it, and fifteen minutes later a raging fever gripped them, and only God's mercy delivered them from death. At another time they asked their way. It was six in the morning. Already the sun was like a furnace. The man with whom they had passed the night directed them by pointing to a tree on the far horizon, where distance seems to melt into distance, and still beyond there is distance, and earth and sky fade into one another. They walked twelve solid hours before they reached that tree, and then saw no other tree, no person, no water, nothing but the blazing sun in the sky, and the parched sand under their feet. But through it all they reached San Fernando on the River Apure, swarming, as are all the rivers of that country, with the crocodile, the caribe (tiny, but more voracious and dangerous than the big monster), the electric eel, and the pulpy ray—all inveterate enemies of man. At San Fernando they disposed of the rest of their Bibles, and left the sown seed in God's hands.

"Many years passed before another attempt was made to enter the llanos with the gospel. Then five years ago, Don Diego once more set out, this time establishing himself at San Fernando and devoting all his energies to the town and the plains still farther on toward the great, never-ending south, where the rivers are bigger, the heat more intense, and the sands more burning, but, praise God! the people more hungry.

"This time God called men to Him, and to the Word, and today there is a church there absolutely built upon the Word of God; not on the works of missionaries or educational plans, but on the simple distri-

bution of the printed Word, by a man who first of all had that Word in his own heart.

"Don Diego infused his passion and enthusiasm for the distribution of the Scriptures into the hearts and lives of those converts. Two of them especially seem gifted by God for the colportage work. It was such a joy to meet them."

In addition to these "vecindarios" and scattered huts throughout the llanos, there are also the vast "hatos" of the cattle companies. These are huge enclosures, many miles in extent, where the cattle roam about undomesticated. We hope to send off these men in the coming dry season for a long trip into the interior. There are large sections that have never been touched by a colporteur. There transportation is as difficult and travel as dangerous as has already been described. On one trip of twenty-six days south of San Fernando, two of Don Diego's men sold fifty Bibles and two hundred and twenty Testaments. Here is a gateway of opportunity open to us, and the Agency has set aside an allowance, though inadequate, for this pioneering work.

The Story of Rosalia Salazar

One of the most promising fields of the Orinoco River Mission in Venezuela is the result of the seed falling into the heart of a young woman. One Sunday, the Secretary of this Agency visited Rio Caribe in the eastern part of Venezuela and spoke to a gathering of believers and sympathizers numbering about one hundred and fifty. The following day, on his way to Carúpano, he stopped at a place called El Moro, a village of about five hundred inhabitants, and visited the mission day school, taught by two Christian women. He was informed that, the day before, there had been an attendance, at the Bible school, of more than one hundred children and adults. Both of these towns received the gospel from the same young woman.

The story of the conversion of Rosalia Salazar, and her subsequent work, is an interesting case of a harvest reaped by others from the seed sown by a Bible colporteur. Rosalia is now about thirty years old, and married to one of the native workers of the mission. About twelve years ago she lived with a custom house official as his mistress, on the island of Margarita, about forty miles from the mainland. One day her brother bought a Bible from a colporteur of the American Bible Society. Later he gave the Bible to his sister. As she read the Book, she became possessed of a new vision of life, and it dawned upon her that she was living in sin. She pleaded with her master to marry her; but he refused. He sought to conciliate her, however, and persuade her to remain with him as before. He treated her well, and she enjoyed the luxuries of the upper class of that community. However, she would not continue living in that illegal and sinful way, but returned to her parents in Rio Caribe, and there her work of spreading the Good News began. After a while she gathered about herself a group of twelve who became interested in the gospel. About that time the Orinoco River

Mission, with headquarters at Carupano,—about sixteen miles west of Rio Caribe,—heard of this small group. In July of 1922, Miss Roe Williams began her ministry among them, and in the succeeding years this small nucleus of twelve grew into a strong organization, whose members have reached out to evangelize surrounding villages.

Rosalia, later on, was employed as one of the mission's regular workers, both as school-teacher and evangelist. At one time, while she was visiting in one of the missionary homes in Carupano, the victrola was played. Rosalia began to cry, and on being asked what was the matter, she said, "Oh, it comes back to me—the luxuries of life I once had on the island." The call of the past arrested her only for a moment. It is hard to realize the price that many of these converts pay to obtain the larger freedom of Christian service.

Signs of the Harvest in Colombia

The many years of colportage work in fanatical Colombia have not been without fruitage here and there. During the year the Agency Secretary visited the annual meeting of the Presbyterian mission board, and heard the splendid reports given by the missionaries—a fitting climax to a year of sacrifice and hard work. One could not help feeling that both the foreign and native missionary force was not adequate to reap the harvest in many fields that have been sown with the gospel by the colporteur.

One of our correspondents forwarded his quarterly reports to our office at Cristobal. A few days later, another letter arrived from him as a sort of postscript, as follows:

"I forgot to mention a very important item when sending in the quarterly accounts. During the last few days, I have been examining candidates for baptism and membership. Out of the eight examined, six said that their first contact with the gospel was through some portion of the Scriptures bought from Juan Sanchez, our colporteur in Cartagena, Colombia. These six were men of the finest type for our work—artisans of good rank. They gave as good testimony as has been my privilege to hear in more than thirty years' experience in missionary work in South America. After their first purchase, they sought out the colporteur again and secured further copies, and were directed to the meetings. There are others who did not come forward for baptism just now, because there is something in their lives which must be adjusted before doing so. The reading of the Scriptures has brought conviction of sin and a desire to straighten out the tangle."

Progress from Portions to the Whole Bible

In connection with what is quoted above about men who were attracted to the gospel by the distribution of portions of the Word, it is interesting to note that our greatest circulation of portions was obtained in Colombia, where, on account of the illiberal attitude of the government, evangelical work has continued for so long a time in its initial

or pioneer stage. For contrast we turn toward Guatemala, where Protestant missions and churches are more firmly established than in any other republic served by this Agency. Here there is a good circulation of portions, though not so many as in Colombia; but the sale of complete Bibles in Guatemala is greater than in any two combined of the other eight republics in which we work. This shows that, while small, attractively printed single gospels are the accepted medium for broadcast sowing of the seed, the growing young church is rooted in, and draws its life from, the whole revelation of God's Word.

Government Interference in Bible Circulation

Two cases have occurred to our colporteurs, and several to those of the British and Foreign Bible Society, where the government has hedged in workers in such a way that it has practically stopped the circulation of the Scriptures in certain parts of Colombia. In each case the interference was initiated by Roman Catholic priests, who were upheld by local authorities, and then backed by the state department at Bogota. So far no test case has been forced upon the government by either a missionary society or a Bible Society. The attitude of some missionaries has been to let well enough alone and hope to avoid a general restriction throughout the whole country. We are waiting with much interest to see if this matter will develop into a nation-wide restriction of colportage work, or be confined only to certain localities where extreme Roman fanaticism exists. This is a matter of deep concern to evangelical missions. The question of religious liberty and unrestricted freedom in circulating the Scriptures may yet have to be met, as it was in Peru when the jailing of Francisco Penzotti brought it to a head, and it was settled once for all that law-abiding and peaceful men might circulate the Holy Scriptures unmolested.

Need for Colporteurs

We have not had any colporteurs working directly under the Agency Secretary this past year, with the exception of Mr. R. C. Halliday, who was obliged to give up the work in May, on account of a breakdown in health. While a great part of our circulation is secured through arrangement with missionaries whereby native workers give a part of their time to colportage work, and the expense is shared proportionately by the mission and the Bible Society, yet we feel that it is very important to have a few first-class colporteurs under the direct management of the Agency's Secretary.

The Central American Republics

These five countries depend upon the sea for their communication with the outside world; for, although they are contiguous, they are not connected by railroads or highways, and to pass from one to another it is necessary to travel by the coastwise steamers. All of them, except Salvador, are washed by the two great oceans, as is also the Isthmian

Republic of Panama. Beside these mighty waters, and along the low rivers of Central America, and up into the mountainous watersheds whence they spring, and where the Indians live, the good seed is being carried.

GUATEMALA—HONDURAS—EL SALVADOR

We have before us a number of accounts of the results of seed sowing furnished by a lady missionary of long experience in Guatemala. From them we choose the two following:

The transformation of more than one community in Guatemala can now be traced to a Bible bought in the neighboring Republic of Salvador, some thirty years ago,—a book held high in the plaza of a small city.

Juan Recinos, a Guatemalan, had once possessed a Bible; but when in confession he told the priest he had such a book, it was rudely taken from him. For eighteen years he secretly mourned the loss. Then he made a journey into Salvador, and one day, in the town of Santa Ana, he saw a crowd of men threatening some one, and in the center a colporteur holding a book high above the heads of that hostile throng, to keep it from being snatched away and destroyed. This was the copy of God's Word which Juan Recinos bought, and rejoiced in its possession until he died many years later, surrounded by believers whom he had led to the Saviour.

Pedro Leiba's Cry

It was also many years ago that the heart of Pedro Leiba called out to God, if there might be a God, from the mountains of Honduras. Apparently no answer came to the cry of this hungry soul at that time, except that he was given to see in a dream a pleasant country full of happy people, a small group of whom came toward him with cheering words, holding out to him a book. After years had passed, three missionaries went to a place on the frontier between Guatemala and Honduras, and to the same place at the same time came Pedro Leiba with the body of his little girl, to bury it in his native Guatemalan soil. He was sitting on the floor, sad and forlorn, when the missionaries entered the house. He immediately addressed them: "Is there not a book that tells about God?" They answered, "Yes; here is one"; and one of them, a young lady, advanced and held out to him a Bible, bound in green. Afterward he told them: "I knew then that God had sent you to me, because, in my vision, the happy people offered me a *green* book; and when I first saw you, the lady came forward and gave me a book just as I had seen in the vision, and the book was green." He read, was saved, married the mother of his children, and began to preach the Word. Some twenty-two churches have sprung up directly and indirectly from his labors. He has been spit upon, led out of town by the ears, and in many ways persecuted. His three sons and two daughters,

all now married, rise up and call him blessed. He still testifies in the town of Desmontes, Gualán, Guatemala.

In the field of the Chiquimula Mission in Guatemala, there is a numerous "League of Bible Readers." These meet annually in conference, and prizes are given to children, young people or older people, who have memorized prescribed lists of Bible verses.

The evangelical mission with headquarters at San Pedro Sula, Honduras, the largest city in the northern part of Spanish Honduras, has just published the story of its five years of work in that republic, under the title "Seed Sowing in Honduras." It is crowded with interesting stories of colportage and pioneer gospel work. One of the missionaries has since told us other interesting incidents.

Last year a missionary was having trouble finding a man whom he wanted to see in the town of Tela, a large banana center of the United Fruit Company in northern Honduras. When he stopped to ask for information at a certain house, a Carib Indian, who spoke broken Spanish, came to the door. The missionary took advantage of the opportunity and spoke to him about the gospel. The old Indian said that he had a book which told about those things, and went into his house to bring it. It was a Bible without covers, and the greater part of the Book of Genesis had been torn off. He said that, when he lived at Cienagueta, a Carib village between Tela and the old town of Puerto Cortez, a man came along selling and giving away Bibles. "That man," he said, "gave me this book, and I have kept it for thirty years." The missionary offered to give him a new Bible, and when he went to deliver the book, the Indian said, "I have been praying to God that you would not forget my book."

Very few Caribs can read; but usually there are one or two in a village who know a little Spanish. Many years ago the Gospel of Matthew was translated into this dialect by an Englishman. He read as best he could from this Carib Gospel, and reported that the Indians flocked around to listen.

COSTA RICA—NICARAGUA

In May of the year just closed, the various evangelical organizations of Costa Rica secured audience with the newly inaugurated President, and jointly presented him with a fine Bible in Spanish. In his answer President González Víquez said:

"I deeply appreciate the visit you have made me, as also this beautiful gift of a Bible, not for its material value, but for the immense moral value which it contains. As President of the Republic, I declare that in this country there is room for all religious creeds which will work together in harmony for the moral and spiritual good, and peace and well-being, of the inhabitants. Our Constitution concedes full liberty and maintains the spirit of tolerance toward all; it guarantees the free exercise of all religions, especially all forms of the Christian religion. Therefore, I, as the chief official of this Republic, assure you who are

Evangelicals, that you may work freely in Costa Rica, with the protection of this government, according to the Constitution. Again I give you my sincere thanks for your good wishes, and for your gift and visit."

The missions in Managua, the capital of Nicaragua, carried out a similar idea, presenting Bibles to both the new President and Vice-President. This occurred later in the year, after the election of General Moncada, and soon after the visit of President-elect Hoover to Nicaragua.

Central American Indians

It is now six years since evangelical work in Guatemala reached the stage where the aid of the American Bible Society was requested in translation work, and publication of Gospels for the Indian population. Already the language of the Quiché and Cakchiquel of Guatemala, and the Valiente of Panama, have each one or two Gospels in print. Shortage of workers and the manifold administrative duties of a growing organization have often crowded upon the missionaries engaged in translation work, and retarded its progress. Although their labors have not ceased, their desire to give the Scriptures entire to these long-neglected people in their own tongue has not yet been realized.

Two Scenes

The Agency Secretary witnessed two scenes in his visit to the Cakchiquel region last summer, that ought to be a definite proof to any one that the sowing of the gospel seed is tremendously worth while. It was during the first week in May, when the festival of the May Queen is celebrated. Several days are given over to this feast; but its significance is largely lost sight of, and the time is given over to carousing and drunkenness. Along the road to Panajachel Indians were returning to their homes, moving along in groups of from three to twenty people, some singing and quarreling, others weary and silent, as they tried to lead or half-carry a drunken man or woman toward home. Here and there were some so helpless and unruly that their friends had to leave them lying by the roadside, some moaning and frothing at the mouth, others lost entirely to the world in a drunken stupor. Such is the spectacle common to these feasts—the veneer of a religious festival, and beneath it paganism in its most vicious form.

The evening of the same day the Secretary witnessed a different celebration, which filled his heart with a deepened faith and renewed hope. The Robinson Bible Institute was founded for the training of Christian leaders among the Indians of Guatemala. For several years it has been the custom to have several months of classes for the students, and then two months' practical evangelism in the many small villages and towns round about. That evening was the close of the months of school work, and a special program was arranged, at which the Secretary was to speak. Among the students were men, the heads

of families as well as young fellows. Several native workers came from the Quiché and Mam sections fifty miles away. Besides a program in which the Indian students and graduates took part, the grades of the best students were announced, and notebook work and maps were put on display. Ten years ago, such a scene was only a far-away dream; yet, that evening the missionaries present felt the thrill of realization as they saw the mighty working of the Spirit of God where the seed of his Word has had a chance to grow. Several workers have been developed who manifest extraordinary gifts of evangelism. These men are eager for the time when they can have the entire New Testament in their own dialect, and we hope the day is not far off when this will be realized.

In Virgin Soil

A most unique field where the gospel seed is being laboriously sown was visited not long ago by the Assistant Secretary of this Agency. This is the northwestern corner of Panama, where Columbus touched the continent on his fourth voyage. The names of Columbus Island and Admiral Bay bear witness to this historic association, as also Provision Island, the Water Cay (pronounced "Key") and Careening Cay, where the little vessels were careened and recalced. On this last-mentioned tiny island was born the Rev. E. S. Alphonse, apostle to the Valiente Indians, whose work has been referred to in previous reports.

Journeying in the company of this zealous minister of Christ to the locality called Cusapin, on the Valiente Peninsula, where the work was commenced eleven years ago, the Assistant Secretary had the knowledge that he was following a route traveled not only by Mr. Gregory, Secretary of the Agency, but by the late Rev. W. F. Jordan, who twice visited the place and has described the primitive life of the Valientes in the closing chapter of his book "Central American Indians and the Bible." The journey was made by small launch, first through devious channels between verdure-covered islands and the greener mangrove swamps. Often the water was shallow and smooth enough for beautiful marine gardens to be visible; but to bathe in that water would be toying with death, as it is infested by sharks. The last half of the journey was across the open sea.

At Cusapin, there is a missionary residence and good church building, and many families of adherents come through the forest to attend services, or send their children to school. Let it suffice to say here that Mr. Alphonse, with true pioneer spirit, has left this well-established station in other hands, to live with his family, and labor in a wilder, untilled field, among members of the same tribe who have only the slightest contact with civilization.

Reaching the New Station

To reach the new station, it is necessary first to cross a great lagoon, which grows less and less salt as one leaves the ocean and approaches

nearer the mainland; for numerous rivers empty into it. The launch is steered over a bar and up one of these rivers, called the Cricamola. For the first fifteen miles no human habitation or clearing is visible; but the banks are lined with a wall of vegetation of the wildest luxuriance—several varieties of palm and other large trees, intermixed with shrubs, vines, and grasses. Should the launch sink as a result of collision with a submerged snag, it is difficult to imagine any escape for the occupants; for it would be a difficult feat to clamber to shore through the tangled roots, and alligators are sufficiently numerous to enter gruesomely into the calculation of one's chances. If, by a miracle, the solid bank should be gained, it would be impossible to push a way through the jungle growth, and the stranded victim could do nothing but climb a tree and resist starvation until some other boat passed, which might be many days.

After sunset, clouds of insects hover over the water and produce an appearance like rain, and small patches of fog quickly gather at each bend of the river. Truly these are inhospitable waters!

At the first clearing it is necessary to leave the launch; for above are numerous rapids passable only to the "cayuca" or dugout canoe. The journey upstream is usually made on foot, ten miles over a vaguely marked forest trail, frequently crossing streams which must be crossed by wading or being ferried in a canoe. Then a small settlement of traders is reached, and here Mr. Alphonse has begun with a school for whatever children will come while he seeks to establish contact with the Indians as they come down from the hillsides. Here, too, he is completing the translations of the Gospels. Matthew was translated and printed by the Society four years ago, and within the next few months John will be ready for publication.

It is difficult to imagine a more heroic experiment, calling for greater courage, faith and love, than this work of sowing the Word of God among the forest Indians of Panama. Yet, here also, we venture to predict that the seed will demonstrate its life and power, and bear the same fruit that it has produced on the seacoast, and throughout all of these Caribbean republics, and in every language and in the hearts of every race of men.

"Blessed are ye that sow beside *all* waters."

Translations

Dr. Paul Burgess, of the Presbyterian Mission, has been back on the field about a year since his furlough in Europe and the States. The Rev. Amos Bradley, of the Primitive Methodist Church, who collaborated with Dr. Burgess in Quiché translation for several years, has gone to the United States. This loss to the work, and the activities of a large field making incessant demands on Dr. Burgess's time, has slowed up the translation considerably. It is encouraging to report that Dr. Burgess has requested the Society to publish a second edition of the Gospel of John. The first thousand copies are exhausted.

The Rev. H. Dudley Peck, of the Presbyterian Mission, returned to his field in September, after a year's furlough in the States, of which six months were spent at Harvard University in comparative study of the languages of Maya stock. We shall hear more about him and his work among the Mam Indians of Guatemala.

Last year we reported that the Rev. W. C. Townsend, of the Central American Mission, had completed a first draft of the New Testament into the dialect of the Cakchiquel Indians. A breakdown in health and calls made upon him for supervising a large organized work have hindered the carrying out of his plans. He is also finding out, as do most translators, that the revision of the first draft requires more time and pains than the preliminary work. We are glad to note that reinforcements have come to his aid, giving him more freedom for revising his version of the New Testament. There is hope that the year 1929 will see the New Testament in the Cakchiquel dialect ready for the press.

Mr. E. S. Alphonse, of Panama, spent several years at a Biblical seminary in Jamaica for training in the ministry, because, when he reduced the Valiente Indian dialect to writing and translated the Gospel of Matthew, his schooling was far from equal to his big understanding of the native Indians. He is back at work again, and has been reorganizing the work. As is stated in the narrative report, he expects soon to have St. John in Valiente ready for printing.

The Bible House

During these days when tourist parties to the South-American countries are on the increase, we wish to extend a hearty invitation to the friends of the Bible Society who visit Cristobal and Colon. Last year a few called at the Bible House to inform themselves about our work and tell us of their interest in Bible distribution. As with Paul in Acts 28:15, we, too, thank God and take courage.

The list of travelers who lodged at the Bible House during 1928 includes the following: 92 missionaries, 25 children of missionaries, and 18 friends.

Some of these were under our roof one night, others a week or more, and some were with us more than once during the year. Those whom we describe as "friends" are persons interested in some way in Christian work, though not actually engaged in it themselves.

UPPER ANDES AGENCY

The Upper Andes Agency was constituted in 1920. It includes Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia, with the southern part of Colombia. The Rev. Robert H. Milligan, D.D., Apartado No. 407, Lima, Peru, is Agency Secretary.

The circulation for the year 1928 was 6,213 Bibles, 8,007 Testaments, and 50,435 portions, making a total of 64,655 volumes. The total circulation since the establishment of the Agency is now 339,284 volumes. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 13 colporteurs, 71 correspondents, and 18 volunteers.



BUILT chiefly on the personal experiences of the Secretary and a few others, this report gains in authority and vividness where it may lack in scope. It is sad that there is much to be told of fanatical opposition and its source. And one may rejoice that there is reason to count on better days in South America generally. But the tales which come from this somewhat backward section carry conviction as to the truth of their picture of conditions, and any true report of the year should record them. Then, too, is it not due those who, through espousing the teaching of the Bible or by devoting themselves to its circulation, suffer hardship for the gospel, that some record be made of their heroism and loyalty through suffering and persecution?

The field of the Upper Andes Agency includes Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, and the southern half of Colombia. The several ranges of the Andes run north and south through the entire field. I have just returned from a visit to Huánuco, in the interior of Peru, in which I passed over the highest railroad in the world,—the Central Railroad of Peru,—which, in crossing the principal range of the Andes, rises to the incredible height of 16,000 feet. I spent a night at the American Hotel of the Cerro de Pasco Copper Corporation, at a height of 14,000 feet. Transportation facilities are extremely inadequate—which makes the work of circulating the Scriptures difficult and expensive.

The circulation for the year 1928 is as follows: 6,213 Bibles, 8,007 Testaments, 50,435 portions; total, 64,655 volumes. This total is 7,000 less than that of the year 1927; but it is 14,000 more than that of 1926. In view of certain circumstances the circulation has been quite extraordinary. In the first place, our beloved John Mark Reed, the efficient Agent for Ecuador, was absent from the field two months on account



SOUTH AMERICA

Showing Agencies of the
AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

SCALE OF MILES.
0 100 200 300 400 500 600
KILOMETERS.
0 100 200 300 400 500 600

Comparative Area.
KANSAS,
82,080
Square Miles.

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Longitude West from Greenwich

of illness. Second, upon the withdrawal of Mr. H. C. McKinney from Bolivia, whose term of service expired in April, there was an interval of three months during which the work was suspended while we were looking for the right man.

COLOMBIA

In June, it was my privilege to spend a week in Colombia. The main port of southern Colombia is Buenaventura, on the Pacific coast, 360 miles south of Panama. Many years ago I visited Bonny, at the mouth of the Niger, in Africa. It may have changed greatly in the years that have passed, but I have always thought of Bonny as the most hideous place in the world: a vast conglomeration of wretched hovels thrown at random into a swamp. And now, at last, Buenaventura has ousted Bonny from its place of supremacy. If Bonny is the "jumping-off place" (whatever that means), Buenaventura is the place they jump *to* when they jump off. It is situated on a low, steaming island ten miles long by two miles wide. There are about 8,000 people, all of whom live in houses of corrugated iron. I am told that, owing to a chronic pest of rats, no other building material is allowed.

Nevertheless, Buenaventura is a place of real importance, being the door to the rich territory of southern Colombia. The Pacific Railroad begins here; and the railroad company has built on the water front a splendid hotel, that is an astonishing contrast to all the rest of the city. Its corridors and porches are charming. But it must be confessed that the service leaves something to be desired.

Cali

The ride from Buenaventura to Cali takes about eight hours, and is interesting every mile of the way. The railroad follows all the twists and curves of the Buenaventura River. The scenery is typically tropical and very beautiful. Cali is in the lovely Cauca Valley, than which I have not seen in South America any landscape more charming. It reminded me continually of our famous Mohawk Trail in Massachusetts. The valley is one hundred miles long and thirty miles wide. It runs from south to north between great ranges of mountains, and is watered by the Cauca River. It is extremely fertile, although scarcely anything is raised but cattle. Cattle-raising is the industry that requires the least effort.

Cali, with a population of 100,000, is the distributing center of merchandise for all the valley and is also the financial center of the coffee business. Thanks mostly to the presence of enterprising foreigners, the commercial activity of Cali reminds one of a city in the United States.

Cali is headquarters of the Gospel Union Mission and the Mission of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. For only one brief night I was the guest of the Rev. W. L. Swartz and his fellow-missionaries of the Cumberland Mission. The remainder of the week I spent with the

veteran missionary Teo. W. Johnston, of the Gospel Union Mission, whose home is at Palmira eighteen miles north of Cali.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnston have been seventeen years in Colombia without a furlough, and they expect to remain there as long as they live. Their accomplished daughter Katherine is engaged in missionary work with her father and mother. One can scarcely stay a day in Palmira without realizing the moral and social transformation that is the result of the work of this mission. The government in Colombia is probably the most reactionary and intolerant in South America. But the people of Palmira are extremely friendly and neighborly toward Mr. Johnston's family. Elsewhere it is difficult or impossible for a Protestant to rent a house; but in Palmira there are many families that would vacate their own houses, if Mr. Johnston were in need of them.

A few weeks ago Mr. Johnston and Mr. Brackenridge, agent of the British and Foreign Bible Society, visited a town at some distance from Palmira. While they were holding a service one evening in a private home, a mob gathered, instigated by the priests. Carrying stones and various weapons, they surrounded the house. I believe it was by order of the prefect or other official who knew Mr. Johnston and was friendly, that the mob was dispersed. Through the unceasing efforts of the missionaries the Scriptures have been extensively circulated, especially within the limits of the Cauca Valley.

ECUADOR

On my way back to Lima, after visiting Colombia, I spent a day at Guayaquil, Ecuador, with our Agent, John Mark Reed. Three years ago, when only seventeen, Mr. Reed became our representative in Ecuador. Without doubt he owes much to the counsel of his father, the widely known missionary, William E. Reed. Nowhere in this Agency is our work carried on more smoothly, economically, and efficiently. During this past year, however, there was a prolonged interruption when Mr. Reed was brought to the hospital in Lima, where he remained more than two months. It was then that I fully realized how much the work depends upon his superintendence. The incidental loss in circulation is more than compensated by our gratitude for Mr. Reed's recovery after a severe illness.

The work in Ecuador, at least in the vicinity of Guayaquil, the largest city, does not encounter strong opposition, owing chiefly to the extremely liberal attitude of the present government.

President Ayora is an extraordinary man, and not at all the type that we usually associate with Latin America. It may surprise those who know the intolerance and fanaticism of South America to learn that Ecuador has abolished "saints' days" and religious feasts, which formerly occupied a sufficient number of working days to keep the people impoverished, and, besides, were occasions of excess and debauchery. I think I am right in saying that throughout the year not a single religious procession is permitted in Guayaquil.

Our work of circulating the Scriptures goes on quietly. It is not easy: for where there is not hostility, there is indifference. Indifference, as compared with hostility, is not dramatic, and does not make an exciting story. But the work is prosecuted with zeal and patience.

Not long ago an old man visited Mr. W. E. Reed and told him that twenty years ago he had bought a Bible from him. He lived in a remote town in the interior. Today he seems to be a real Christian, and, although he has had no teacher, he has a clear knowledge of the fundamental truths of the Bible. When his mother was dying, he taught her the gospel as he understood it from his Bible. The local priests persisted in offering him help, but he refused.

PERU

There are more missionaries in Peru than in any other part of this Agency, and here, as would be expected, our circulation is largest.

Two weeks ago I visited Huanuco, the central mission of the Christian and Missionary Alliance. One evening, while we were in prayer-meeting, a shower of stones enlivened the testimony. Afterwards I picked up from the floor as many as a dozen stones any one of which, if well directed, would have killed a man. This being my first and only experience of this kind of serenade, I was greatly excited, although I made a noble effort to appear as calm as my fellow-missionaries. Their indifference amazed me. It was as if they had acquired immunity in regard to stones. One can get used to anything—even sudden death, perhaps.

They told me that, two months before this, they were holding a meeting in a private house on the other side of the town, when a mob of several hundred people surrounded the house. The doors were immediately closed and barred, and before they did any real damage, the police arrived and dispersed them. A number of leaders were arrested. They testified that the attack had been instigated by the Roman Catholic bishop, and that he had urged them even to withstand the police and to kill the Protestants.

The Roman Catholic Church of Peru is still the church of the Inquisition. During the past year I visited Cuzco, the ancient capital of the Incas, where I spent five days. Above the door of a conspicuous church on the central plaza, one reads the words chiseled in stone: "Come unto Mary all ye that labor and are laden with the weight of your sins, and she will relieve you."

In Cuzco are many Inca foundations. The superstructures, however, are gone, and in their place have been built, on these same noble foundations, buildings so cheap, ragged and hideous, that one indignantly protests against the desecration of something sacred. The impression of desecration is not modified by the fact that these present buildings are often churches and monasteries.

Inca Descendants

If we ask where are the descendants of that ancient race whose remnant works still fill us with wonder and admiration, we are told that their descendants are these numerous Quechua Indians, living in unspeakable dirt and squalor, whom centuries of unparalleled cruelty and oppression have degraded and brutalized. Who did this? and how did they do it? The answer is not far to seek. On the road between the city and the fortress still stands the Church of the Inquisition. Among its interesting objects is a stone, a little like a common grave-stone, that stands conspicuously in front of the church. This was the altar where the Indians were converted to Christ. In this upright stone slab there are two holes, one above the other. The Indian who happened to be the particular object of solicitude and prayer, having been stretched on the ground face down, his head was thrust through the lower hole in the slab. Then his body was doubled backward and his feet thrust through the upper hole in the slab. If his back was not broken during this religious exercise, he was left in this position until he accepted Jesus as his Saviour. In their former religion it is undeniable that there were certain elements that make for purity and strength. In their present religion, let him find such elements who can!

Yet, here and there, among those same Indians are striking faces, countenances not unworthy of their past, and eyes mysteriously deep, that seem to look at one through the long vista of the ages. The uniform testimony of missionaries is that there is latent in the Indian a moral power not equalled and usually not even approached by those of mixed blood or by any other class in Peru.

While I was in Huanuco, I was walking one day down the street with Mr. Carl Volstad, of the Alliance Mission, when a young Indian saluted him. I was so impressed by the clear intelligent eyes and the gentle manner of the Indian, that, after he had passed, I asked about him. His name is Pedro Ayra, and he is the son of Apolonio Ayra, a pure Quechua Indian who lives in a town about forty miles from Huanuco. From Mr. Volstad I learned the history of Apolonio and his wife, of which I have space only for the briefest outline, however desirous I be to tell it without omissions.

Apolonio Ayra

In the year 1915, by sheer accident, a Christian tract of eight pages fell into the hands of Apolonio, dropped by one who brought it from a distance without knowing or caring what it contained. Apolonio read and reread this tract, and with no other help came to the conclusion that the true God was not the God of the Roman Catholic Church, and that their forms and ceremonies were not true worship, but folly. He did not hesitate to declare his conviction, and he lived true to such light as he had received. Three years later, in 1918, he visited Huanuco, and while there heard a sermon preached by a missionary. He immediately

identified the God whom the missionary preached with the God of his precious tract. Before returning to his home, he bought a New Testament. For the next eight years, until 1926, he had no other missionary contact. But he studied his Testament, and he lived it, and he preached it, although his loyalty cost him continual persecution and suffering. His wife and family believed with him, and suffered with him. When I asked Mr. Volstad what kind of woman was Apolonio's wife, he replied: "She is a beautiful woman, and a beautiful character." It was the first time I had ever heard the word "beautiful" applied to one of these Indian women, and I confess that it sounded somewhat ridiculous. But afterward, when I saw a good photograph of Apolonio's wife, I said: "She surely is beautiful." For the beauty of her character shines in her face. For the last three years Mr. Hoy, pastor of the Church at Huanuco, has kept in touch with Apolonio, and occasionally has visited his town.

Since 1915, however, this wonderful family have suffered continual persecution, instigated always by the priests. They have threatened to excommunicate all the people of the town, if they did not drive out the heretics. Again and again Apolonio has been brought before the district judge charged with destroying images and crosses. It is true that he has destroyed his own, but never has he destroyed those of any other person. On all such occasions Apolonio passes the charges lightly and takes the opportunity of preaching to judge and people from his Bible. He has committed it to memory extensively, and is exceedingly apt in quoting it.

Resorting to Extremes

Apolonio has two sons and seven daughters. When one of his daughters was married, it was necessary that a priest should officiate. The priest insisted that the young woman should partake of the communion. She refused. Thereupon, shortly afterward, the whole family was bound and dragged from their home to the jail, the priest being present and inciting the mob. The jail had a thatch roof, and it was proposed to set it on fire and burn out this Protestant heresy. An official with a keen scent for graft interfered and told the family that for fifteen pounds (\$60 in American money) he would release them. The family had no money, and it would take the hard work of a year, or possibly several years, to earn such a sum. But a certain merchant who knew Apolonio was so sure of his honesty, that he advanced the money on Apolonio's bare promise to pay. The family were released, and Apolonio kept his word and paid the fifteen pounds.

He has tried to send his son Pedro to school, but it has proved impossible, owing to persecution on the part of pupils and teacher. Although infirm and lame from a broken leg, three times has Apolonio been compelled to walk to Cerro de Pasco and back, a round trip of 220 miles, in order to answer to false charges. Often has he been heard to say: "They may kill me, but I shall never turn back."

BOLIVIA

The work in Bolivia suffered a great loss at the beginning of the year, when Mr. H. C. McKinney retired after ten years of missionary work. During the latter half of this period he was Agent for the American Bible Society. In planning for the future care of the work Mr. McKinney gave me invaluable help. As a result, we now have in that field, as colporteur, a man who is doing a wonderful work. After introducing him to my readers, I shall occupy the remaining space with his own narrative of his work, which needs no embellishment, and which reads like a new chapter of the Acts.

Miguel Sabha

Miguel Sabha is an Arab by birth, born twenty-six years ago in Bethlehem of Judaea. In that city of sacred memory he spent his childhood, and there he went to school—to several schools in fact; a school of the Greek Orthodox Church; then a Roman Catholic school, and finally an evangelical German school. While still a lad, on account of political unrest, his father sent him out of the country to join an elder brother, who was engaged in business in Santiago, Chile. In 1919, he went to Bolivia, where there are many Arabs. In the course of his business travels he visited San Pedro, the center of the work of the Bolivian Indian Mission. There he met the Rev. George Allan, and under his influence he was converted. His own statement is: "I was saved from a wicked and wasted life." Not long after this he married a Bolivian woman, a devout Christian like himself. I first heard of him in La Paz, where I was told that, whenever his business brought him to La Paz, if possible he attended the weekly prayer meeting, and that his presence was an event.

Here was an ideal man for colporteur, provided he was available. He was successful in business and had a fair prospect of becoming rich; while I could only offer him less than half of his present salary. Nevertheless,—

In simple trust like theirs who heard,
Beside the Syrian sea
The gracious calling of the Lord,

—like them, he left all, and without the slightest reference to "sacrifice" answered what he believed to be the call of his Master. He has had the friendly advice and supervision of the Rev. Johnson Turnbull, of the Canadian Baptist Mission in Cochabamba.

Three months after Miguel Sabha began work as colporteur, Mr. George Allan, passing through Lima, told me about him and his work. Speaking with great enthusiasm, Mr. Allan said: "There is not another such man in Bolivia." He gave me several instances of Sr. Sabha's wit in meeting hostility, and his skill in turning opposition to advantage. He spoke of his unfailing courtesy, of the quiet dignity that never compromises self-respect, and, above all, of his passionate earnestness. Shortly after this, I wrote Sr. Sabha and told him how much I should

like to have some account of his daily work among the people. In reply I have just received from him the following "journal," covering a limited period of time, and I am eager to share it with friends in the homeland. It has been translated from the Spanish with great care, so as to preserve the simple style and character of the original.

Sr. Sabha's Report

"Bolivia," writes Sr. Sabha, "is fanatical, and the people are very jealous for their religion. The work is difficult. I have been threatened with death, and I have been stoned. But I have seen the fruit of my labor. It is wonderful. Many persons have been brought to the knowledge of the Lord Jesus and are now rejoicing. In 8,000 homes I have talked about the Bible and have told its message of salvation. May God bless his Word!

"In Punata, I offered a Bible to a gentleman who was standing on a corner. He refused to buy it. Then I offered it to another man who was standing at the door of his house. This man's wife was interested in a Quechua Testament. I read some passages to them, and at last they bought the book because of the low price. After leaving them, I went to the house of a man named Camacho, who is sacristan of the church. The man who had bought the Testament entered with me and asked Sr. Camacho if the book was good. He replied that it was not; that it was evangelical and not Catholic. Then the man turned to me and said: 'Sir, give me back my money.' I told them that this book contained the gospel of Christ, and that there was no difference between their own Bible and this.

Fairly Convinced

"I produced a Catholic Bible, and we compared the two.

"Sr. Camacho was convinced, and then he advised the other man to keep the book that he had bought. Then, from his Catholic Bible, I showed him the difference between the true Christ and the Christ of his church. We talked long, and discussed baptism, the mass, purgatory, and many Catholic beliefs that have no foundation in Scripture. Then I taught him the gospel of salvation through Christ. I felt that his mind was changing, and his face showed joy. He was surprised when I told him that Mary, the mother of Jesus, needed a Saviour (Luke 1:47). Finally he said to me: 'Sir, will you take dinner with me?' And he added: 'Now I know who are the true Christians. They are not the Catholics, but the evangelicals; and we persecute you without knowing why. From this day my ideas are completely changed because of the things that you have taught me out of my own Bible.' I took dinner with him, and he could not do enough to please me. He was convinced that salvation is by faith in Christ, and I urged him to accept him as his Saviour. I believe that he did, and I left him glad and happy.

"The man that had bought the Testament some hours before was waiting for me at his door, and said to me: 'Sir, I am very much pleased

with the book I bought, and I believe that it is God's Word.' Then he begged me to stay for dinner. I told him that I had just had dinner. But I talked to him about the gospel and told him that he must believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, in order to be saved. I advised him and his family to read the Bible every day; if possible, an hour a day.

"In this town of Punata I have talked in 150 homes. Many have received the gospel with joy. Others paid no attention, and some pushed me with their hands and tried to fight.

"In Cliza, many homes welcomed the Word, and I tried to teach them the religion of Christ—always out of the Bible. Many think that ours is a new religion recently invented. One afternoon, in this town, a crowd of men and women became furious and came toward me, yelling: 'Look out! This fellow is a Mason. Don't buy books from him.' They said my books were devilish; and they took some of them and tore them in pieces and burned them. The next morning a young man demanded that I leave the town immediately, or he would call the people together and they would kill me. I told him that I was not afraid, and passed on.

"Later in the morning I saw a man and three women sitting in the doorway of the man's store. It is a large general store, and they are a family of wealth and are prominent in the town. When I offered them the Bible, they laughed at me and mocked my words. They also said that the Scriptures belong to the devil and are therefore forbidden by the church. With all the tact I could command, I talked to them about the Bible, and at length one of them said: 'Show us your Bibles.' I took out four Bibles and handed one to each. I got them all to read certain verses. After a while they asked me to sit down and tell them about this forbidden religion. As I talked, they became interested. Others came and a crowd gathered. When I spoke of our need and of Christ's redemption, I saw tears in the eyes of some of the women. I talked for two hours, until I could talk no longer. When I rose to go, the whole family gathered around me and grasped my hands. I quoted Acts 16:31 and left them with hearts filled with joy. They promised me that they would read continually the Bibles they had bought.

Mistaken Ideas Removed

"In Quilla, many were interested in God's Word. In this place there were two 'beatas' (holy women), terrible women, fanatical and hostile to the gospel. On former occasions they had cursed me. This day I saw them sitting together, and I went straight to them and asked them to buy a Bible. I asked them why they were so hostile. They said it was because I deny the Virgin and teach that she was not a good woman. I told them that we do not deny the Virgin, but honor her and call her 'blessed above all women.' They said, 'Is that in your Bible?' I said: 'It is'; and I asked if I might read it to them. So I read them the beautiful story of the Virgin in the Gospel of Luke and in Matthew. They were astonished. Then I talked to them about the

true religion—the religion that is of the heart and does not consist of external forms and ceremonies. Finally, they both bought Testaments, the Spanish-Quechua, and I left them full of joy at what they had heard.

"In that same town a crowd of boys, led by the fourteen-year-old son of a tailor, followed me, and snatching several of the Gospels tore them to pieces and burned the fragments in the street. They were incited by certain fanatical women. Later I passed through the street again. When I came near and was about ten yards from them, they suddenly threw stones at me. I had to run. But one stone struck me and lamed me. Shortly afterward I called on the tailor whose son had led the crowd that assaulted me. When we finished talking, he bought a Bible from me, and also asked pardon for his son. Then he called the son and rebuked him and told him that without doubt we have the true religion; for we worship God in spirit and in truth.

"In Arque, there is a mission of the Bolivian Indian Mission. Here I met the priest of the town. When he saw a boy with a Gospel in his hand, he called him and tried to take the Gospel from him, saying also that he was going to destroy it. But the boy ran away. When I saw this, I went up to the priest and said: 'Sir, neither you nor your church nor your Pope have any right to destroy God's Book, which testifies of Jesus Christ.' He replied that God's Word should be respected and not given to boys who are not old enough to understand it. I replied that everybody, whether old or young, needs to know God's Word (2 Tim. 3:14-17). Then out of the Bible I read to him what Jesus says about children (Luke 18:16): 'Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.' There was an open debate in the presence of twelve men and women, who were all intelligent-looking people. The priest had only words and theories that have no foundation in Scripture, while I had the Bible in my hand. When he saw that he was defeated in the presence of these men and women, he became very angry and tried to strike me. He called me an 'evangelical' and a 'savage,' and he said that our books were fit only for savages.

Fairly Caught

"Now it happened that this same priest had been accustomed to call at the mission and ask for medicines; and when he was sick, the missionary—Mr. George Douglas—and his wife, who is a nurse, had taken care of him. Therefore, when the priest said that our books were fit only for savages I asked him if our medicines also were fit only for savages. He was humiliated before the people; for they knew about the medicines. So, again God's Word defeated Satan. In twenty homes they listened to the gospel, and in the evening they asked me to talk in a hall. Forty persons were present. Among them were two of my own countrymen: one a Catholic, and the other, a Jew."

LA PLATA AGENCY

The La Plata Agency was established in 1864. With the exception of Venezuela and Colombia, it has included all the republics of South America in which the Spanish language prevails; viz., Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, and Bolivia. In 1920, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia ceased to be a part of this Agency. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. Paul Penzotti, Calle Corrientes 728, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The circulation for the year 1928 was 13,050 Bibles, 18,014 Testaments, and 165,247 portions, making a total of 196,311 volumes. The total circulation since the establishment of the Agency is now 2,632,694 volumes. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 17 colporteurs and 283 correspondents.



NE surprising event of the year in this Agency is in happy contrast with preceding pages. Prominent attention is intentionally called to this event, both because it was most welcome and because of the earnest hope that it will become more common. In Buenos Aires—the largest city of South America—under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church, a special edition of the Four Gospels in one volume was printed, and 100,000 copies were sold on the streets. Over the radio it has been announced that this will be repeated. The report gives other interesting details. A regrettable fact has illustration also in these pages. It is one to which the Society has been calling the attention of the Christians of North America as especially existing in South America. The Agency has been short of books from lack of appropriations. For two months it was out of Bibles. Not only have its own colporteurs not been supplied but a devoted Christian, who purchases and gives away thousands of Gospels every month, could not have the Bible he desired for the same reason. Increased income would enable the Society to remedy this condition. The Agency rejoices in benefits from the visits of two distinguished Americans—President-elect Hoover and Dr. E. Stanley Jones. Another American visitor aroused an earnest wish for others like him, when, on learning of the need for Scriptures in one field, he presented the workers with 2,000 Spanish Bibles, 5,000

Testaments, and 10,000 Gospels. The Agency does not look for funds simply from abroad. It raised last year in Argentina, for its work, nearly \$7,000 in U. S. gold.

The year 1928 has been one of the happiest ones in my experience as a missionary of the cross. The opportunities offered for service have been many, and I am happy to report great increase in the circulation of the Scriptures.

We were very fortunate to receive nearly 300,000 Spanish Gospels, with the national flag on the front page, and we were enabled with them to make a special propaganda during the year. I am glad to report that we have sold over 150,000 of them.

Our Circulation

During the year 1928 we sold the following books: Bibles, 13,050; Testaments, 18,014; Gospels, 165,247; a total of 196,311 volumes.

The Secretary in charge of this Agency is very grateful to the three sub-Agents, 14 colporteurs, and 283 correspondents who have cooperated with him in the distribution of these books. The number of days spent by them in this work is 4,850; miles traveled 52,600, and the number of towns and villages visited, 463. Most of the books circulated were in Spanish, although we have sold a good number of them in 37 other languages, specially German and Italian.

The work of the American Bible Society is being felt in these countries. During the year, we were greatly surprised by the action of the Roman Catholic Church in Buenos Aires. For the first time in the history of this church, they placed in circulation 100,000 copies of the four Gospels, in Spanish, together with notes and prayers. They appointed committees of young ladies, who offered the Gospels for sale in the streets of Buenos Aires. They quickly disposed of the whole edition. But the strange part of the whole affair is that, together with the sale of these books, they circulated a small tract where they claim that "the Roman Catholic Church has always emphasized the importance of the reading of the Bible." We all know that said church has always tried to keep the Book from the people. One of our pastors, Mr. Galizia, of Corrientes, wrote a letter to the man in charge of this work, inquiring of them the nature of this work. The answer he received reads as follows: "In answer to your note of the 17th of May, we would say that, in order to counteract the great Protestant propaganda in this country, we have decided to publish, in one volume, the four Gospels, small size, together with the confession and Communion. The price will be 50 cents each." This is signed by the great Cardinal Ferrari Propaganda.

As I have stated before, this is the first time in the history of Romanism in Latin America, that any effort has been made by them to place the Scriptures into the hands of the common people; and if they

have done so, it is to undermine our work. But I am glad to say that, providentially, we received our Gospels at the same time that they placed their books in circulation; so that in one week we were able to sell in the streets of Buenos Aires over 40,000 Gospels. We find that a great many people are curious to know what is meant by "Gospel" (it seems to be a new word to many of them), and they are buying our books.

Reenforcements

Our Society has been very fortunate, this year, in being able to obtain two good colporteurs, who have had a great many years experience in Bible work. One of these, the Rev. Gabriel Ostermann, comes to us from the Baptist Church. Mr. Ostermann was one of our faithful colporteurs for many years; but during these last years he has been pastor at Mendoza. He has returned to us, and is doing very valuable work for us in the city of Buenos Aires. He is one of the best men we have ever had, and has wonderful success in distributing the Scriptures. He finds it very easy to dispose of 100 Testaments a day, visiting the "cafés" and offering the Bible to the men sitting round the tables. He has also distributed a very large number of Gospels. The great difficulty has been to keep this man supplied with books, specially Bibles, of which we have had none for the last two months.

The other man we have been able to obtain is the Rev. Tulin, of the Adventist Church. He also has been pastor at Mendoza, but is now with us, doing splendid work out in the country. He owns a Bible coach, which he used all the time, specially in the province of Buenos Aires.

A Pioneer Missionary

E. N. Bauman, of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Junin, deserves to be mentioned in our report as one of the leading Bible workers in this country. Every year, during the cooler weather, the Rev. Bauman receives from us a large donation of books and makes a trip north, to the Chaco, where a large number of German-speaking immigrants have settled. Mr. Bauman spends at least two months visiting these people, selling the Scriptures, and preaching to them every day, sometimes more than once a day. He writes about having held very important services on the trains. His work among these good people is made possible through the gifts and grants of books from our Society. Our Society ought to have a permanent worker among these people, who have come to Argentina to settle for good in the great cotton district of Argentina. A great many of these people are Protestant, and so far very little has been done to help them spiritually.

Bible Coach

In Uruguay, the "F. G. Penzotti Bible Coach" has done good work during 1928. Our sub-Agent, Mr. Chaplin, has done most of the work

with this coach, although the Secretary has also made several trips. The Waldensians continue to manifest their interest in this Bible coach, through their donations, for the running expenses are very heavy.

During the year the Bible coach went up north as far as the Brazilian border. While there, it started to rain, and we were compelled to bring the coach back to Colonia by train, as the roads were impassable. As soon as the rainy season sets in in Uruguay, it is out of the question to travel in an auto; so we have to keep the Bible coach going during all the dry weather. Besides selling the Scriptures, we hold services every night, with the help of the lantern. Many thousands of people have been reached during the year.

Several of the churches in this country have seen the importance of Bible coaches and are working with them. There are four of them at present, and now the Mennonites have decided to get one. Mr. Park Lantz, one of their missionaries, has recently returned from the States with the funds necessary to buy one. A committee has been appointed in this city, consisting of Dr. Browning, Dr. Brown, Mr. Aden, and the Secretary of this Society, to obtain a Bible coach for this Society, in Argentina. With these improved methods of travel, we shall be able to visit the remote sections of the country that, so far, have not been reached.

Other Agencies

We would like to mention the special work of two agents in this city, who are helping us in the distribution of books. One of these is Mr. J. E. Pagano, a man who spends over \$100 a month from his salary, in buying books from our Society at very low rates, and then distributes them gratis. Mr. Pagano buys from us 5,000 Gospels every month, and would like Testaments and Bibles as well, but we are unable to supply him through lack of books. The other agent is Mr. Ferguson, of the Nazarene Church, who has wisely distributed many thousands of Gospels in his evangelistic work. It is a pleasure to us to be able to furnish these good workers with the books they need for their work among the unconverted.

An Unusual Donation

During the year, the Secretary was able to visit the Republic of Paraguay, where the Rev. Martinez is in charge of our work. I was greatly pleased and surprised to find that our sub-Agent in Asunción received a splendid donation of books for our work in that needy field. An American traveling in that country, seeing the great need of books, donated 2,000 Spanish Bibles, 5,000 Testaments, and 10,000 Gospels. We greatly appreciate this valuable help. We are hoping that he will remember us again.

Our work in Paraguay is carried on mainly through the efforts of the missionaries, it being impossible for the present to find a col-

porteur. The Secretary visited many of the evangelical churches in Paraguay, holding services every night, and was received with marked courtesy by them all.

The work in Paraguay is very difficult. There are no roads in that country and most of the traveling has to be done on horseback. We have one man, who spends part of his time going over this very difficult field; but we have to depend principally on the efforts of the missionaries.

URUGUAY

During the year 1928 we have made a special effort in this progressive little republic. We find Uruguay one of the best countries in which to work. The Waldensians, who now number about 10,000, are a great asset to our work. The Bible coach has made a trip covering the greater part of the country. Then we have a very active colporteur in Montevideo, the capital, who not only works there, but with his bicycle visits the interior of the country.

CHILE

So far we have not been able to secure the services of a sub-Agent who can devote all his time to our work; hence our work in Chile has not been well attended to. It is impossible for the Secretary, who resides in Buenos Aires, to visit Chile frequently. The distance and the expense make this prohibitive. The distance from the north of Chile (Arica) to the south (Punta Arenas) is 3,000 miles, and it takes the Secretary nearly two months to visit the churches in this territory.

The Rev. E. Martinez R. is the sub-Agent in charge. Mr. Martinez is the manager of the Union bookstore, in Santiago, and besides looks after our own work. But he cannot travel and visit the churches; hence we have not received the cooperation from them that we would like. We have had two colporteurs in Chile, giving all their time to Bible work.

ARGENTINA

This is the most important country in our Agency. We could well use all the appropriation just in Argentina. The immigration into this country demands our immediate attention. A very large number of Protestants are coming into Argentina all the time, and we should have permanent workers among them. We have sold a very large number of books in German, Ruthenian, Czechoslovakian, Russian, and Hebrew.

Buenos Aires is the largest city in Latin America. We have kept our main office in Calle Corrientes (Living Waters) open all year, and we have done our best that the true "Living Waters" may flow continually to all parts of our Agency. Our moving to this splendid location has been fully justified in the increase of our sales. We keep five colporteurs employed all the time in this important city:

R. L. Chaplin, Gabriel Ostermann, Francisco Vivaqua, Pedro Parolo, and Antonio Colosimo. All these men have had record sales during the year 1928.

The Secretary

The Secretary made over 300 visits to different churches during 1928. One of the main efforts has been to interest the churches more and more in the work of our Society, and we are glad to report the largest contributions to the work of our Society, in the history of this Agency. We think we have made a record this year. The contributions reached the sum of 16,257 Argentine pesos, or \$6,774. U. S. gold. This has enabled us to buy a large number of books locally, to help us keep our colporteurs supplied with books. We are very grateful to our good and generous friends who have helped us so nobly. May God bless their gifts.

In 1927 we visited Spain. While there we were able to provide ourselves with a very interesting illustrated lecture of that country, related principally with the evangelical work. During 1928 we delivered this lecture all over this country and Uruguay, with two objects in view. In the first place, it gave us an opportunity to speak regarding our own work; and, in the second place, to speak a word in favor of needy Spain. We have tried to interest the evangelical people of these countries in the work of the churches in Spain.

It is very gratifying to us that the churches here open their doors to us, giving us an opportunity to present before their people the needs of our Society. The increased donations prove that they respond to our appeals and also their interest in our work.

The Secretary has visited during the year the annual conferences of the Southern Baptists, the Mennonites, Adventists, and Methodists. In all these great meetings he was allowed to present the work of the Society. It was very gratifying to hear the many testimonies from the pastors as to the influence of Bible work in their respective fields. Several of these churches have permanent colporteurs, who report to their annual meetings the amount of Scriptures circulated during the year. It is the custom of this Society to furnish all the colporteurs of the different churches, with all the books they need, gratis, as part of their salaries.

Two Notable Visitors

During 1928 we were greatly honored by the visits of two notable Americans. The Rev. Dr. E. Stanley Jones came to us right after the General Conference in the United States. His visit was a great blessing to all the churches in Uruguay, Argentina, and Chile. The regular services were held in the Methodist church, next to our bookroom, and we were able to frequent them much to our delight. All our colporteurs noticed at once an increased interest in the reading of the Word, with corresponding increased sales. This was specially true in Chile.

The Hon. Herbert Hoover was the other prominent American to visit these countries. His visit was very timely, specially on account of the conflict between Bolivia and Paraguay. Some of the leading papers in this country have blamed the trouble between these two countries to moneyed interests from the United States, and we were glad to see this man of God preaching good will and peace to all Latin America.

Offering the Word

The work of distributing the Bible in Latin America is very interesting, specially as one meets so many people who seem to be "hungry" for the Word of God. While the Bible coach was making one of its trips in Uruguay not long ago, we got stuck in the mud on account of the very poor roads. After laboring for several hours, we were able to get out, thanks to the timely help of several kind farmers. One of these, on learning that we were distributing the Bible, asked us for a copy, which he bought, making the following remark: "I have waited for a long time for this book. I am glad I have it at last."

Shortly after leaving the town of El Carmen, the car stopped on account of bad roads. Friends came to our rescue and, after helping us out of our trouble, manifested great interest by buying each a copy of the Bible.

In the rural districts in Uruguay one meets quite often with many "Liberals," who profess indifference to religion; but sometimes we come across very sincere Roman Catholics, who are really and sincerely religious. Among them we find it easy to distribute the Word, as in the following cases. At the small hamlet of St. George we were surprised to find a fine large church of that name, built by the widow of an "estanciero" (rich farmer). This was visited once or twice by the priest, when services are held. The caretaker informed us that they were very religious women, and, on visiting them, we were able to sell them several copies of the Scriptures, while they remarked, "We hope that you will sell many more of these books."

A few leagues further on, the car broke down and was delayed half a day for repairs. The time was occupied by a visit to the nearest farmer, who was a very religious man. On offering him the Bible, he assured us that the Roman Catholic bishop had held a mission in his house, and, opening a large room, he proudly remarked, referring to a picture on the wall: "He gave me that Virgin." He went on to say, "There are a great many false Bibles being sold in this country"; but he finally bought one. When we can show these people that there is but ONE BIBLE, they will generally purchase it.

While visiting a large farm near Ernestina, the owner asked us to visit his wife, who would be interested in our books. On presenting the Scriptures, she remarked, "Yes, the Bible is a very good book. I have just received a copy among other books from Montevideo, as I am a member of the National Catholic League of Women." At our

request she allowed us to see a fine copy of the Roman Catholic Bible, well bound, with notes, in several volumes. She assured us that she was reading it with great interest. When we informed her that our books were practically the same as hers, with the exception of the notes, she bought two copies for her daughters, who listened very attentively to the gospel message. Later on, when near Corrales, a car drove up with this same lady, and the driver told us that he was her nephew and that he also desired to purchase a copy of the Bible on the recommendation of his aunt. On parting, she remarked: "May you sell many of them."

On the road to Corrales we met two commercial travelers, Jews, who were going the same way as we. One of them could speak English and informed us that he had a Bible and knew all about it, but that he did not believe it was the Word of God, and that he was indifferent to all religions. The other, however, who had been reading the Yiddish tracts given them by us, after a long talk regarding religion, bought from us a Yiddish New Testament.

In the large town of San Gregorio de Pelanco, we found only one professing Christian, a Cuban, the local printer. He informed us that he was a cousin to Bishop Cabrera (the famous evangelical leader in Spain). He purchased a large Spanish Bible, and his influence certainly helped to effect the sales of books.

In Rivera we visited the local military barracks, where the commanding officer very kindly gave us full liberty to visit the officers and men, many of whom purchased copies of the Scriptures, free copies being given to those who wished for them and had no funds on hand.

An ex-interned employee of the German Sanitation Company working in Rivera had learned to speak English well and studied the Bible during the time. He was glad to purchase a copy in Spanish and to receive the tract in his own language.

In and around Buenos Aires

While canvassing "cafés," our sub-Agent, Mr. Chaplin, frequently encounters people who have bought Scriptures in other parts of this country; this year he met a well-to-do Bolivian business man who showed his appreciation, as a result of a Bible sold him, by making a good donation to the Society.

In Rosario, Mr. Chaplin sold a Bible to an elderly man after informing him that it was the Word of God, with His message of salvation through Christ. He seemed very glad to get the book, and remarked: "It has taken you a long time to find me with these good news." And this, after thirty years of constant sales in the main railroad station and colportage work. There are still many homes in this country where the glad message has not reached.

An employee of the Government House recently accosted Mr. Chaplin with the remark: "You sold me a Bible in Mar del Plata,

and I want to thank you for it. I believe that it is the Word of God. I am studying the Book regularly."

During a recent canvass in Quilmes, Mr. Chaplin met two chemists, who some time before had bought Bibles from him; they assured him they were convinced that the book was the Word of God, and that they studied it constantly. One of them said he read it every night, with his wife, and that they were attending evangelical meetings.

In a recent tour to Comodoro Rivadavia, we sold a Bible to an Argentine doctor, who met us some time ago in the streets of Buenos Aires and informed us that he had been converted through the reading of the Scriptures; that he was attending evangelical services, and that he intended helping our Society to carry on our work, so that others may come into contact with the Light.

An English bank manager, formerly a Roman Catholic, who had lost all his faith in God since losing his young wife, bought a Bible and, after reading it carefully, has regained his faith. He assured us that he had lost all his doubts, attending services and helping others in their difficulties.

Testimonies of conversions through the efforts of our colporteurs come to us right along. The evangelical leaders of these countries are also generous in their praise of our work. Many of them are able to visit their large districts by selling our books, which helps them in their travel expenses.

Through the radio we have been informed that the Roman Catholic Church is to issue shortly their second edition of the Gospels in Spanish. It is interesting to note that this special effort to place the Scriptures in the hands of the people is called "La Jornada del Evangelio" (an evangelical effort). We still have over 100,000 copies of the Gospels in Spanish, with which we are hoping to make a special effort this year. We feel that the time is ripe, in these countries, for a special effort of evangelization, through the spreading of the Scriptures and preaching. We are also planning to distribute 25,000 New Testaments in Spanish, thanks to the increased appropriation that we are to receive this year.

We again want to thank the evangelical people of the United States for their interest in Latin America. We thank them for the money they are investing in the evangelization of our people. Latin America offers today a great opportunity for evangelistic work which must not be lost. Whenever an honest effort is made to bring the gospel before the people, we meet with success. We trust that the day will soon come when we shall be able to realize our plans, sending a large number of colporteurs, Bible coaches, and evangelists to the people in the interior of South America who have never heard the gospel news.

BRAZIL

The Brazil Agency was established in 1876. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. Hugh C. Tucker, D.D., Caixa do Correio 454, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The circulation for the year 1928 was 8,796 Bibles, 9,739 Testaments, and 150,835 portions, making a total of 169,370. The total circulation since the establishment of the Agency is now 2,033,903 volumes. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 18 colporteurs, 128 correspondents, and 59 volunteers.



THE trip of President-elect and Mrs. Hoover to South America was of special moment to this Agency. Their visit to Rio covered a Sunday. The Brazilian press and people were deeply impressed by the unostentatious, characteristically simple, way in which Mr. and Mrs. Hoover attended the Sunday morning service in the American church of which Agency Secretary Tucker is temporarily in charge. Another international element of the year and of the report is the growing immigration of Japanese, and the cooperation developing between this Agency and the Japan Agency for the supply of Japanese Scriptures. Surely the world is drawing together. The tone of the whole report is one of wide interest, of real accomplishment, and of hopeful outlook.

The thirty-ninth and fortieth consecutive annual reports of the Brazil Agency were considerably longer than others for obvious reasons. The first of the two reviewed the activities of the American Bible Society in Brazil from the beginning, giving special attention to the fifty years of the regularly organized work, and particular reference to the forty years under the present incumbent's direction. The second gave detailed statements of the jubilee celebrations and a full review of the fortieth year's work. It is quite proper that the report this year should be much shorter. A further reason for brevity this time is the fact that the Agency Secretary was absent from the field for several months. We report in the first place the work of our regular

Colporteurs

The number giving full time for a few months or for the twelve months was eight; nine others gave most of their time. They were located chiefly in the states of Paraná, São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Minas Geraes, Pernambuco, and the Federal District. Their methods of carry-

ing on the work were those of visitation from house to house, in the streets and market places of the cities and towns, and on horseback journeys through the country. They all report that they have noted increasing interest to buy and read the Bible. They find it necessary to give considerable time to answering inquiries, explaining the Scriptures, and talking with the people. Several of them are real evangelists; eight are preparing for the ministry; these have given certain hours daily to colportage work, doing their studying and recitations in the late afternoons and evenings. It is gratifying to hear the testimony of these young men as to the helpful influence the personal effort and contacts in the colportage work is having in their own experiences and preparation for the ministry; it is proving to be good training for them.

There is a growing tendency among the students for the ministry to engage in the work of Scripture distribution during the summer vacations. Many times they combine evangelistic and colportage work; they are generally under the direction of pastors or missionaries and go into newly opened or unoccupied fields. The experience in colportage work is not only helpful to them as a preparation for their high calling as preachers of the gospel, but will make of them loyal friends and supporters of the Bible cause when they become established as pastors of churches. This feature of the work is worthy of attention and comment.

Incidents from Colporteur Reports

"I was going to a merchant's store; a friend said, 'You need not go there; he is an atheist; he only believes what he can see.' I replied, 'But he must read the New Testament.' The result of a half hour's talk was that he bought a New Testament, and gave us coffee."

"Passing through a railroad train, among others I offered a New Testament to a priest; he refused. As I turned to other passengers, he said to a judge by his side, 'These Protestants are astonishingly audacious. See, I am a priest, and he comes offering me these Protestant books.' A man on the seat in front of the priest said, 'Let me see one of those books.' He said to a passenger by his side, 'Buy one of these; it contains good moral truths. It is the Word of God, and contains the true teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ.' Several others near the priest bought copies."

"In the month of January I placed in the hands of the people 4,096 copies of the Scriptures. I greatly desired to reach 5,000. In December I made special effort in the suburbs of Rio to sell 5,000; I succeeded in placing 7,079 copies; 6,790 were sold, and 289 were given to the poor or left in hands of interested parties who may pay for them later when they have the money."

"In the year 1926 I did special work for a time in suburban trains (we gave reports of this work). This year I made the same kind of efforts for a time and sold a large number of Gospels; sometimes I would go without breakfast, other days without dinner, continuing my work until ten or eleven o'clock at night. In one train there were 120 to 150

second-class passengers. One man said, 'Put this fellow out of the train; tear up his books.' They tried to insult me and said many false things about me. I did not reply. When the train stopped, I took advantage of the quiet and spoke to them of God's truth. A number of them bought copies."

"In the month of December I traveled 1,099 leagues, and visited 1,513 houses; more than 15,000 individuals heard the Word of God as I offered it for sale and spoke it publicly. I left with them more than 7,000 copies. On my last journey I narrowly escaped losing a leg caught under the horse as he fell with me in the mud; but God saved me. Only I was wet and muddy, and I had to travel a league before I could change my clothes. I fortunately visited a number of places where a colporteur had never before been. I took note of what some of the people there said, but unfortunately lost my notebook."

Work of Our Correspondents

Attention has been called several times recently to the growing interest among missionaries, national pastors, and other active Christian workers to circulate the Scriptures among the people with whom they have contacts in their own communities. The fruits of Bible reading gathered through the years by missionaries and evangelists have greatly accentuated faith and interest in the written Word of God as an agency for making Christ known to the individual. Many are finding the distribution of Scriptures one of the easiest and most effective means of entering unoccupied areas and opening up new fields.

A special feature of the work of our correspondents is supplying Bibles to the increasing Scripture-reading constituency. The home, the church, and the Sunday school have no other source of supply to meet their need for Bibles than the Bible Society Agencies. There are no private publishing companies that print the Scriptures in Portuguese in various convenient and helpful styles. This demand, growing all the time, is increasingly consuming a greater proportion of the books available for the entire work throughout the country for a year. With the prices at which they are supplied, the amount received from sales is not sufficient to pay all customhouse duties, expenses of transportation and administration of the Agency, and leave a margin of cash with which to secure more books. It would be very difficult, under present circumstances, to place this feature of the work on a purely commercial and self-supporting basis. If the Bible was only one book handled along with hundreds of others by bookstores at a corresponding retail price, the case would be different. However, we are trying to educate the Bible-reading public to pay full prices for their Bibles and to contribute more liberally to the support of the work.

A Trip Down the Araguaya

A correspondent wrote: "On July 14 I started down the Araguaya in a little twenty-foot boat. After visiting many Indian villages, I sent the

boat and equipment back and continued on down the river with Caraja Indians to Conceição. Here I secured two men, who took me on down to Maraba on the Tocantins. Then a launch took me to the big rapids. But, as it got stuck in a shallow place, with two other men we arranged another canoe to take us to Patos, where we caught a steamer to Belem.

"As I went down the river I spent considerable time with the Indians and made good friends in many places. They are certainly a very needy people. And, I believe too, very worthy people. They seem, as far as I could observe, to be a very moral and cleanly people. They call all who are not Indians 'Christians,' and unfortunately those who travel up and down the river are vile and wicked; so they have an idea that the white man's religion is worse than their own ways.

"Only one Indian was found who professed to be able to read, though the government has spent money liberally with the priest for many years to teach them. You will be glad to know that we now have a fine young Caraja Indian in the school here at São Paulo. Only a short time ago he was a wild naked Indian; now he could not be told from the rest."

He says of a meeting at another place, "We had with us some thirty Gospels and just one New Testament. When the people of our congregation saw these, they clamored to possess a copy. The Gospel was freely distributed until not one was left; the Testament was offered for sale, but no one spoke. A little roughly made wooden table stood in the center, which had been my pulpit, and upon it a fuming grease lamp. Around this gathered the group of proud possessors of the Word of Life. Every one read aloud: some just spelling out the words, and others, more advanced, reading anxiously the life-giving portions. We had already got into our hammocks; but sleep was out of the question, as this glorious babble continued until the light began to sputter. They drew nearer; but, in a few moments, the light sputtered out. Quietness remained. Without hardly a word they resorted to their hammocks, it being almost midnight.

"Our horses were ready saddled; for we had to get on to our destination, the Indian villages. Just as we were about to say good-bye, a bright young lad came running up to us. He breathlessly inquired the price of the New Testament; it was Rs. 1\$000. With a real grin, mixed with a small sigh of relief, he proudly produced the necessary amount—all that he possessed. He snatched the book, as if he was afraid of it going up in price, and dashed off with his priceless treasure.

"We left here with mixed feelings. With joy in our hearts because of the wonderful reception of his precious Word, and sad because of the multitudes who do not yet know and have not yet received a single portion of the Book."

The Bible Store

The reports this year show that the number of Bibles sold over the counter and sent out by mail is considerably larger than ever before. Scarcely a day passes that interested persons do not climb the steps to

our store, one story from the street, to buy Bibles and Testaments; and almost every daily mail brings requests for one or more books to be sent by post. During the twelve months 2,685 packages of books were mailed from the store—an average of about nine for each working day, leaving out Sundays and a number of holidays when we are compelled by law to close. Letters written and mailed in connection with this feature of the movement amounted to 1,873.

A Bible House Sorely Needed

Reviewing the history of organized Bible work for fifty years in Brazil, taking stock of the present status of the movement and contemplating its future developments, the need and value of a permanent home for the Agency become very clear. The advantages of an adequate building have been set forth in previous reports, and the subject has been discussed at the Bible House in New York; we need not do more this time than call attention to it once more.

There is reference in foregoing paragraphs to some of the problems of the work. A limited appropriation, heavy import duties and transportation expenses, an increasing consumption of Bibles in the growing Bible-reading communities and the necessity to sell at reasonable or low prices, constitute one of the most serious difficulties in the way of carrying on the work, especially in the extensive rural regions already referred to. Frequently there are no books and money left when heroic colporteurs desire to go out with the Shepherd's message among these scattered sheep. There are frequent applications from men highly recommended by their pastors to enter the service of colportage, but the money and books are lacking. The investment in a Bible House at Rio would economize on depository expenses, give an aspect of permanency, and be a source of income to help meet the need.

Japanese Immigration

The numbers of Japanese settling in Brazil and engaging in rice and coffee culture are increasing. There are reported to be about 80,000 already in the state of São Paulo. Efforts are made to induce them, as a matter of policy to gain favor with Brazilians, to accept baptism and enter the Roman Catholic Church. There are Protestant Christians among them; regularly organized work and worship has been established in several communities; two or three Japanese preachers have come out from Japan, and a few young men are preparing for the ministry. The Brazil Agency is supplying the needed Scriptures in Japanese for the work, and is now corresponding with reference to employing a colporteur to work among them. The Bible Society will probably be asked to publish a bilingual Gospel or New Testament, Japanese-Portuguese, for use among these new settlers. The Brazilian delegation to the International Missionary Council Meeting at Jerusalem had conference with the Japanese delegation concerning work with these immigrants.

We are informed that the Japanese and Brazilian government authorities have entered into an agreement whereby a million Japanese will be located in Brazil within the course of a few years. The expressed desire of both parties is that the new settlers may be assimilated as rapidly as possible into Brazilian national and social life; hence the suggestion that they accept at once baptism and admission into the Roman Catholic Church, this being the professed religion of the great majority of the people. However, the Bible Society and Protestant Christianity have an obligation and an opportunity with regard to these people.

Indians and Rural Population

It is encouraging to note that the Indians of South America are beginning to figure more largely in the missionary movement of the continent. There are perhaps nearly a million and a half of them in Brazil. Only a very few who have come in contact with Christian missions and civilization can read; in these instances they learn the Portuguese language. It is quite probable that there may never be necessity for translating the Scriptures into their dialects; the tribes are small numerically, scattered over large areas, and their dialects are numerous. They present a most difficult missionary problem. The Bible Society Agency cooperates with the missionaries who are establishing work among them.

This brings to mind the fact of Brazil's enormous illiterate rural population. Brazil is an agricultural country; perhaps more than three-fourths of the 37,000,000 of inhabitants are scattered over vast areas of country where railroads are lacking and even wagon and automobile roads are very few. About seventy-five per cent of these people are illiterate. Bible work among them is exceedingly difficult and expensive; however, our colporteurs do now and then make long journeys into these regions, and the Agency cooperates with missionaries and native workers who are extending their efforts into these fields. This is a large aspect of the work that must be kept ever in mind.

Bible Dictionary and Concordance

The Agency Secretary, together with the Brazilian secretary of the Committee on Cooperation, induced various boards of missions to provide the money necessary for publishing in Portuguese John D. Davis' Bible Dictionary. The translation was made by a competent Brazilian scholar, a retired Presbyterian preacher. The need for such a work has long been felt. It is a volume of 1,001 octavo pages. Its appearance will greatly advance Bible study. About 600 copies were sold for cash by the time the book was out of the binder's hands.

Another deeply felt need in the growing Bible-reading community of Brazil is that of a Concordance. The Bible Dictionary Fund provides that the amount received from sales shall be used for publishing the Concordance. The manuscript is about ready, and almost enough cash is in hand to pay for the printing. Lovers of the Bible have prepared

the manuscript. This is equally serviceable with each of the three Portuguese versions of the Bible in use. In the case of the dictionary, because of the three versions, it was necessary to give the spelling of proper names and frequently of titles according to each. As yet there has been no definite rule established for the translation and spelling in Portuguese of Biblical proper names. It is believed that the painstaking work of the committee who made the Brazilian version will greatly contribute to the solution of this problem.

These achievements, besides being of interest to all who promote the reading and study of the Bible, serve to indicate the wide range of service the Agency and its Secretary are rendering to stimulate the more thorough and systematic study of the Book that is being placed in the hands of the people.

Rev. William I. Haven, D.D.

I ask the privilege for a brief reference to Dr. Haven. It was my pleasure to know him personally shortly after his election as one of the General Secretaries of the Bible Society. With the retirement of Dr. John Fox, in 1918, the Agencies in Latin America came under his supervision. From that time until his translation to the realm of eternal bliss our acquaintance and fellowship grew closer through correspondence and conference at the Bible House. His increasing interest in the work in Latin America greatly endeared him to the Christian workers in Brazil. They gratefully acknowledge the contribution he made to the cause. Many of them, in passing through New York, received kind attentions from him and often spoke of his genial and impressive Christian spirit. It was an inspiration to correspond, work, and talk with him. It was my privilege to be one of the honorary pallbearers on the occasion of the appropriate and impressive funeral service held at Summit, New Jersey. We all greatly miss his companionship and counsel.

President Elect Hoover's Visit

On the occasion of Mr. Hoover's visit of good will to Brazil, the Agency Secretary, in the name of the Society, made him and Mrs. Hoover presents of a Portuguese Bible and New Testament printed by the American Bible Society. The following is the letter of presentation:

"DEAR MR. HOOVER:—The Brazil Agency of the American Bible Society extends cordial greetings to you and Mrs. Hoover on the auspicious occasion of your timely visit to Brazil.

"Your faith in, and loyalty to, the divine truths recorded in the one book the American Bible Society seeks to translate and circulate in all languages and dialects of the world are well known in Brazil. This Agency, therefore, joins gladly in the welcome being extended to you at this time, praying that your visit to the capital city of the Republic may be in every way most pleasant and successful.

"In the name of the Brazil Agency of the American Bible Society, I beg to offer to you a copy of the Portuguese Version of the Bible made by a committee of American missionaries and Brazilian scholars. This work of cooperation and the ready acceptance of the Book by our Brazilian friends represent a spiritual force exercising an influence in cementing the bond of friendship and good will you have happily come to promote.

"May the light of God's truth ever shine brightly in the pathway of high honor and responsibility to which your fellow citizens have called you by the will of God.

"I beg to offer to Mrs. Hoover also a copy of the Portuguese New Testament of the same version.

"I am, Very truly yours,

"H. C. TUCKER, *Agency Secretary.*"

Mr. Hoover replied as follows:

"MY DEAR REV. TUCKER:—I wish to express appreciation for Mrs. Hoover and myself for your kind attention.

"I am deeply grateful for the Bible which you sent me and for your good wishes.

"Yours faithfully,

"HERBERT HOOVER."

As acting pastor of the Union Church the Agency Secretary had the pleasure of extending to these distinguished guests an invitation to the services the Sunday they were in Rio. The manner in which they accepted, went to the church quietly unattended and participated in the worship, made a deep impression on the Brazilians. There were a number of interesting newspaper comments. A case was reported by a Y. M. C. A. secretary, of a young Brazilian who was impressed with something he had read from Mr. Hoover on the subject of the Christian religion. He went to the Association, asked for, and bought, a Bible, saying he wished to read and know more of it. Mr. Hoover's manner of life, example and utterances on this tour of good will around South America made a real contribution to the cause the Bible Society promotes in these lands.

The number of tourists and visitors coming to Brazil tends to increase. Frequently there are those who call at our Agency headquarters and show interest in our work.

Agency Secretary's Travels

In last year's report there was reference to an invitation to participate in the meeting of the International Missionary Council at Jerusalem, March 24th-April 8th.

It was my privilege to travel with members of the small Latin-American group across the Atlantic and the Mediterranean to Palestine. The fifteen days spent on the Mount of Olives in fellowship, worship and work with the 240 official delegates from 51 nationalities was an unusual privilege and a great opportunity; the occasion brought some of the

richest experiences of a lifetime. The conclusions reached by the Council, the recommendations unanimously agreed upon, and the plans outlined for the future mark a new day in the missionary enterprise and constitute the greatest program a body of Christians has ever set forth for the conquest of the world for Christ.

The translation, circulation, reading, and study of the Bible are fundamental in this great program; indeed, the entire work is based upon the Bible and its divine message to the world. The Easter season was a happy time to be in Jerusalem.

During and after the sessions of the Council rare opportunities were enjoyed to visit the interesting historic places and scenes in and about Jerusalem and through Palestine. Travel, observation, and study were extended with much pleasure and profit through Syria, Turkey, Greece, Egypt, and Italy. The two months and a half spent in Bible lands greatly enriched knowledge and experience of the saving truths of the one divine book the Bible Society circulates among the nations of the earth.

I enjoyed conference, travel, and exchange of experience with the American Bible Society Agency Secretary for Mexico, who was also a member of the Council, and with the Secretary of the Arabic-Levant Agency: I traveled with him over parts of his field and visited the Bible Houses at Cairo and at Constantinople; in the latter city I had conversation with our Levant Agency Secretary and his assistant. At Athens and Rome I visited the Bible stores of the British and Foreign Bible Society and talked with the men in charge.

Later, during travels in the States, it was my privilege to meet and exchange views with our Agency Secretaries for Siam, China, and the Pacific. The fellowship and interchange of experiences with these colleagues in the Bible work, and the observations made in some of their fields, contribute to a better preparation for carrying forward Scripture distribution in Brazil. The circulation, reading, and teaching of the Bible were subjects of frequent conversation with a number of the delegates of the Council at Jerusalem.

Sunday-school Conventions

At the urgent request of the Committees of the Brazil Sunday-school Union and the World Association, the Agency Secretary, with approval from the Bible House, attended the World's Tenth Sunday-school Convention at Los Angeles. He was invited to participate in the work of the business committee and in the program. Brazil was represented by twenty-three delegates, nine of whom were native Brazilians. The reports from the field, the interest shown by Brazilians in the reading, study, and teaching of the Bible, made a deep impression on many of the 7,600 delegates to the Convention. When the invitation was given for the World's Eleventh Sunday-school Convention to be held at Rio de Janeiro, the business committee answered with hearty approval. This will be the first international gathering on a world-wide scale to be held

on the South American Continent. It should give a great impetus to Sunday schools and the Bible cause.

Shortly after returning to the field, the Secretary was called to participate in the Brazil National Sunday-school Convention. The Sunday schools in Brazil are efficient means for promoting the study of the Bible and its wider circulation in the communities where they exist.

Bible Sunday

Bible Sunday is observed annually with increasing interest by the Protestant Churches of Brazil. It is customary for pastors on that day to discuss the topic suggested by the American Bible Society. The year 1928 marks the tercentenary of the birth of João Ferreira de Almeida, the first to translate the Scriptures into the Portuguese language. It was decided that Almeida and his translation be chosen as the subject for Bible Sunday this time. Interesting information on the subject was prepared in Portugal and Brazil and given wide publicity through the press and in pamphlet form. Almeida was born in 1628 in an obscure village of Portugal, and while still a child went to Holland; in the year 1641 he was in Batavia, capital of Java, where he frequented an evangelical church; the services were conducted in Portuguese. The reading of a pamphlet on the difference between the Reformed Church and the Roman Catholic made a deep impression on his mind. He entered the ministry and soon began his translation of the Bible. The New Testament first appeared in 1681. He was working on the last verses of the book of Ezekiel at the time of his death, August 6, 1691, at the age of sixty-three years. The work on the Old Testament was completed by Danish missionaries. Almeida was known in Holland as the "Defender of the Truth."

The reading and discussion of facts concerning this remarkable man and his work in translating the Scriptures into Portuguese has awakened fresh interest in the Almeida Version and the general subject of Portuguese versions.

Circulation for the Year

The following is a statistical summary of the distribution for the year.

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Total</i>
Sales at depository	1,125	1,020	58,970	61,115
Sales by colporteurs	2,545	3,309	27,729	33,583
Sales by correspondents	4,927	5,304	62,600	72,831
Total	8,597	9,633	149,299	167,529
Donations, etc.	48	49	1,485	1,582
Portuguese Braille for the Blind.....	...	...	23	23
Other items	151	57	28	236
Grand Total	8,796	9,739	150,835	169,370

It will be seen that the plan to get the Sunday schools to place in the hands of the people a million copies of the Gospels—500,000 from the American Bible Society Agency and 500,000 from the British and Foreign Bible Society Agency—has not been as successful as was anticipated; however, the work will be extended through the coming year.

EUROPE

The Society has no established Agency in Europe, save in such countries as are included in the Levant Agency. It, however, has correspondents in Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Russia, Belgium, Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, France, Switzerland, Central Europe, and Italy. Through these correspondents it is able to assist in the supply of the Holy Scriptures to many who might not receive them otherwise.



REPORTS have not come in from many of our correspondents in Europe concerning the work of 1928. All, however, have appreciated the aid received. There seems to be a general increasing interest in the reading of the Bible. No narrative reports are at hand from the representatives of the Methodist Episcopal Church to whom aid was sent during the year in Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Germany, and Italy. Nor is there word of developments and work in Russia or Poland. Statistical reports received from the Methodist representatives show a distribution of 727 volumes in Norway, 485 in Sweden, 413 in Denmark, 39,835 in Germany, and 3,640 in Italy.

BELGIUM

The following extracts from letters and reports, received from the president and director of the Belgian Gospel Mission, Ralph C. Norton, tell their own and interesting story.

How we appreciate and value the work of your Society in the great contribution it is making to translate and disseminate the Word of God throughout the world. Will you not please express our sincerest gratitude to the trustees and members of the great American Bible Society for their interest and contributions to Belgium.

* * *

Here is an extract from Mr. Quadpeerds of Seraing.

"Since the 7th of November I have been colporting at Seraing, and it is very hard to sell anything. By speaking much and long to the people I sell from ten to fourteen New Testaments a day, and give a hundred copies of St. John daily. If I were discouraged after the first denial, I could only sell five New Testaments daily; but I take every opportunity to make the people understand what the New Testament is. Many say to me that they will not change their religion, but then I

reply to them that that is not our intention, and that we bring them God's Word, so that they can read themselves what God wants from them. In this way I am able to testify often of my Lord, and I believe there is not one place in Belgium where I have given my testimony so often as here in Seraing! * * *

"I have been, too, in a house where the priest had ordered them to burn the Word of God; they had only possessed the Gospels and would not buy a New Testament. They had the Gospel of St. John and the epistle to the Romans, and I told them to underline the words which were not good, or to call me when the priest was coming again."

* * *

Our itinerating agent reports as follows under date of December 18:

"During the last year I have spoken with many people and often have I heard of the silent work that the Word of God has done in the hearts of the people. In some cases this work has extended over fifteen years; in others, over forty years; and only last week I heard of a man who said to one of our brethren who had offered him a Bible, that the sight of this book reminded him of a similar one he had in his possession for over sixty years. After saying that, he went to his attic and ferreted out the Bible which he had, perhaps, never read, but which will now, we hope, become his daily companion, and be the means of his salvation!"

This same worker reports, under the same date, the following incident:

"The other day I went to Thielt. This is a place not far from the battle front, where we have been holding meetings in a hall which is really not fit for the Lord's work, but we are waiting for means to give them something better. I had gone there to interview the people who had complained, and as I was sitting with the husband and wife in their home, I asked him how he had come to know the gospel. He told me this story which I pass on to you as an encouragement to distribute the Word of God:

"His brother went to England some twenty years ago, and worked in a factory, where a friend, an Englishman, gave him a Bible. The Bible was accepted, but not read. Later on, this man moved back to Belgium, from there to Germany, then into Russia, and France, and finally settled near Charleroi in the French-speaking part of Belgium. These wanderings had taken him almost eighteen years. During that time the Bible had accompanied him everywhere, but had not been opened more than once a year. However, at Charleroi this man met a Christian who spoke to him about his soul, and then the Bible received attention and was taken up and read. It showed the reader his guilt and the way of escape, and made him a child of God and a zealous disciple.

"The first thing that he did was to write to his brother and sister-in-law in Thielt, who at first mocked because of the radical change they saw in their brother. Previously, he could write of nothing but business; but now his only topic was the Lord Jesus Christ. They did

not understand this change. But the converted brother hammered continually on the same nail, and finally it stuck; so much so that our dear brother Meersman at Oost-Roosebeke (a neighboring town of Thielt) one Sunday received a visit of four people, among them being our couple from Thielt. They wanted to know the way of salvation. As the ground had been well prepared, the way was easily found and accepted, and they rejoice now in their Lord and Saviour. The first thing they did was to speak to their servant girl, who was on the point of going into a convent. She also 'turned from idols to serve the Living God,' and spoke to her mother, who also, in her turn, accepted the Lord Jesus as her Saviour. The mother spoke to the children, and already two of the sons are no more their own; for they have been 'bought with a price.' And thus it spreads!

"Most probably that man in England does not know, and may never know in this life, what has happened to the Bible and to the man he gave it to; but what joy it will be in heaven for him to discover that the seed he sowed has brought forth fruit—perhaps a hundredfold! This is not an isolated case; there are others, some of which we know, but more of which we know nothing."

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The Rev. J. S. Porter, veteran missionary of the American Congregational Churches, sends an appeal to American churches, which has to do specifically with the work of his own denomination, but does not enlarge on the Bible work. He reports a distribution of 1,126 volumes of Scripture and in a covering letter sends this word of thanks for aid received:

We rejoice to be able to have a part in the work of the Lord in this land of martyrs, where three hundred years and more ago the Bible was hunted out of the country. Now we are privileged to help put it into the homes of the poor and rich who sit in the awful darkness that Romanism has spread over the land.

FRANCE

The secretary of the Bible Society of France, Major George Bertrand, both in letters and his report reveals his enthusiastic earnestness in the work being carried on. He reports a circulation of 4,039 volumes of Scriptures as a part of the work done by the American Bible Society. The special feature of the year was the issue of the experimental "Library Edition" of the New

Testament. Why it is experimental and what are its characteristics are indicated in the following extract:

No mark or symbol of any kind on the outside of the book reveals its origin. That is one of the requisites of success; its anonymousness is our surest means of attracting an indifferent or profane public. France, "daughter born of the Church" (Roman), as well as the Voltairean France, ignores all Gospel. The majority of our compatriots know nothing of Jesus Christ. To them the New Testament is only a collection of prayers or sacred hymns. And, though they may be led through intellectual restlessness, and often also through affectation, to the reading of the Koran or the Vedas, they no less remain ignorant of the book in which are written the divine words preached by Jesus on the shores of the lake, where are found the stories alike of his sufferings, of his death, and of his resurrection, as well as the narrative of the Acts of his apostles. Now we think that, seeing the New Testament offered in a bookstore just as any other book is offered, our fellow-citizens will not have hesitation in obtaining one. And when they open it, they will find with surprise the most human and most moving of morals, until, touched with the grace of God, the living reality of eternal things is finally revealed to them.

Such is the plan and scope of this enterprise, that, may we remark, it will further serve the foreigner in the study of the French language. This edition may be purchased and compared with foreign texts of the New Testament. The universality of our language is favorable to such study.

The committee on revision of the Bible Society of France has been working since the autumn of 1927 on this edition, meeting once or twice a week. The text employed was the Synod's Version of the New Testament of 1926, with some retouching and correcting, to be known as the "Synod's Version, 1928." The rights of reproduction are reserved for all countries. Bernard-Grasset, one of the foremost printing houses in Paris, produced and announced the book prominently in the bookstores. "It should prove an epochal edition."

In addition to the \$1,500 given by the American Bible Society to the Bible Society of France, partly for its general work and partly for the above-mentioned special "Library Edition" of the New Testament, the Society sent a further donation of 5,000 of the blue-cover New Testaments published by it for use during the World War. Grateful appreciation gracefully expressed has come in response.

SWITZERLAND

The Evangelical Society of Geneva, through its director, Pastor E. Burnat, sends acknowledgment of the contribution made to aid it in its work in France, and particularly among the Armenians now in France. Its work being mostly done through France and Belgium, it disseminates chiefly Scriptures in French; but also uses some in Italian, Spanish, and Czechoslovakian, in addition to Armenian. A brief historical statement gives the following among other facts:

The society was founded in 1831 and is the oldest for the evangelization of French-speaking countries. "It is not a church, and affirms its ecclesiastical neutrality and collaborates with all churches and associations which recognize the tenets of the Reformation. Though its headquarters are in Geneva, Switzerland, France is its principal field of action, where it works as well among Protestants as among Catholics. The society's unique aim is realized: (1) by a large dissemination of tracts and Scriptures; (2) by placing pastors or evangelists in localities deprived of them until little flocks become able to sustain themselves; (3) by sending to twenty summer resorts of the Swiss Alps, pastors who conduct services regularly during July and August. Its income is the gifts from year to year received mostly from Geneva and other Swiss Cantons; but also from France, Holland, Great Britain, and the United States." This further report from the year may be added:

In Italy, Colporteur O—— had a long and delicate campaign, considering the active propaganda of the Catholic Church at the time of the St. Francis of Assisi Jubilee. In the Foreign Legion, at Saida, our evangelist works among Protestant soldiers, many of whom speak German. * * *

Evangelism among the Armenians residing in France is a new branch of our activity. We support three young Armenian evangelists, who work zealously and successfully in the departments of Rhone, Ardeche, and the city of Marseilles, wherefrom comes the following appeal: "Besides the three agents already at work, we should have six more to fill the most urgent need." Will the Société Evangélique de Genève become the means God will use to answer this prayer? In fact, more than the multitudes whose sight caused the compassion of

Jesus, the multitudes we have seen are languishing and downhearted like sheep without a pastor; their moral distress is appealing; family, country, fortune, they have lost all. Faith alone may sustain them. But how can faith subsist, if nobody revives it. Circumstances are exceptional, and the immigrants are ready to answer God's appeal. How long will this favorable situation last? Can we ever find the opportunity if we neglect it now? * * *

The report of the work of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Switzerland has been received from Dr. R. Ernst Grob. It is brief, and shows a total circulation by sales and donations of 2,236 Bibles, 1,616 Testaments, and 333 portions, or a total of 4,185 volumes.

CENTRAL EUROPE

Under this heading is placed the report from Dr. Adolf Keller, the representative of the Central Office of Church Relief Work in Europe, connected with the Federal Churches of Christ in America. Again through him funds were sent to supply Greek and Hebrew Testaments to poor students in theological schools in central and eastern Europe. Grateful responses have come from those in charge of some of these schools. A part of Dr. Keller's letter reads:

Please find enclosed our statement on the distribution of funds, totaling \$325, contributed by the American Bible Society in the year 1928. You will have received by this time our report giving particulars as to the distribution of \$200 designed for buying Greek and Hebrew Testaments for poor students in central and eastern Europe; and for the \$125 sent in two installments for the Brailleing of Scripture in Hungarian. You have had acknowledgments for both from the Central Bureau and Bishop Ravasz and Mrs. Matolesy. * * * May I ask you to transmit to your committee our warmest thanks for their continued interest in our work, and may I express the hope that it will be possible for them to continue their assistance as in the past. I only want to assure them that this contribution is highly appreciated everywhere, and makes it possible to us to meet in some measure a need that is overwhelmingly great and urging.

ITALY

The Waldensian Society, through its moderator, Sig. V. Alberto Costabel, sends this message:

It was our privilege to distribute during the last ecclesiastical year 315 Bibles, 481 New Testaments, and 4,166 portions, of which many to Roman Catholics. I have personally given many copies of the whole Bible to teachers in public schools, who came to me asking where to find the elements for the religious instruction they were to give to their scholars, and for which they were utterly unprepared; and I am sure that many of my brother ministers had the same opportunity of pointing to the Word of God as to the only pure fountain of religious teaching.

There is no doubt that, of late, there has been a great awakening in the study of the Bible, which has been declared by our Premier Signor Mussolini to be "the only rule of faith for all the churches, the Roman Catholic included." In spite of the greatly changed attitude of most of the Roman clergy toward the Bible, there are still here and there some priests who seem to be inspired by the same old fear—I do not say hatred—for the Word of God.

Some time ago the parish priest of a village in Piedmont, where we have a church and a school, caught a good fellow (a Catholic) reading his Bible. "What is this?" said he to him. "You must not read that book; look here, you sell it to me."—"Very well," was the answer, "I will sell it to you. Wait but a moment, that I make a note of where I can get another copy." "Why! if you are going to have another one, what is the use of my taking this one from you?" was the suggestive reply.



LEVANT AGENCY

The Levant Agency was established in 1836. Until 1921 the territory constituting its field was the Turkish Empire in Europe and Asia, including Egypt and the Sudan. The establishment of the Arabic-Levant Agency in 1921 divided its field. The territory now covered by the work of the Agency is the Republic of Turkey and adjacent states in Europe and Asia, including Bulgaria, Greece, and the republics of the Caucasus. The Rev. J. Oscar Boyd, D.D., is Agency Secretary, 1 Park-ring, 8, Vienna, Austria.

The issues for the year 1928 were 5,702 Bibles, 10,218 Testaments, and 45,455 portions, making a total of 61,375 volumes. The total of issues since the establishment of the Agency is now 4,701,366 volumes. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 18 colporteurs, 20 correspondents, and 1 volunteer.



VIENNA as the headquarters of the Levant Agency seems incongruous until reasons for such an arrangement are read. Another surprise of the year sprang from another source. But it seems equally a *fait accompli*. The announcement, and ultimately imperative order, by the Government of Turkey that the Latin alphabet should be used instead of the Arabic in the printing of the Turkish language, astonished all. The rapid progress of literacy in the new alphabet under the drastic orders of Mustapha Kemal Pasha is likewise astonishing. The need of adaptation of the Bible Society work to these changes, and the prospect of other changes naturally stimulate those in charge. The sub-Agents in charge of the work in Turkey, Bulgaria, and Greece have to recount hardships and difficulties in the work. But there is no abatement of earnestness and purpose.

On the 1st of August the following notification was sent out by this Agency to its many friends and colaborers, East and West:

"The Levant Agency of the American Bible Society, established at Constantinople in 1836, announces the removal of its headquarters to Vienna, on account of the superior facilities afforded by Vienna for the printing and binding of Scriptures, together with its proximity to the Agency's fields in the Levant. Its chief centers of distribution will remain, as heretofore: Bible House, Stamboul, Constantinople, Mr. F. Lyman MacCallum, sub-Agent for Turkey; 40 Ulitza Soloun, Sofia, Bulgaria, Rev. M. N. Popoff, sub-Agent for Bulgaria; 5 Rue Franque, Salonika, Greece, Mr. P. Tokatlides, superintendent of colportage for

Macedonia and Thrace. Persons living outside of these three countries should address all communications, orders or remittances, no matter what language or field is concerned, to J. Oscar Boyd, Agency Secretary, 1, Parkring 8, Vienna, Austria."

Moving an Old Agency's Headquarters

The story of 1928 begins with a sigh of relief and gratitude that this task now lies behind and not before. The securing of suitable rooms for our office; the transfer of the Secretary and his family, and of Mr. Cassapi, the bookkeeper, and his family, with their baggage and household gear, the former from Constantinople and Cairo, the latter from Beirut; the long search for a dwelling for each family, in this city where now complete socialism prevails and leases are only to be bought at high prices; initiation of the business relations with printers and binders in the German language with its own technical terms of the trade; interminable discussions with officials concerning our work and the peculiar character of our Society and its relations with Austria, on which depended decisions as to all manner of taxes, customs duties, compulsory insurance, and the like; and last but not least, the successful introduction, duty free, of all the plates belonging to the Agency exclusively, of which twenty series numbering 13,551 came from Constantinople, and nine series numbering 7,560 came from Beirut. Every plate came safely, though eight of them fell into the harbor of Beirut while being loaded from lighter to ship. Divers recovered them, and they are none the worse for their sea-water bath. The end of the year was the limit of our freedom from duty in introducing the property of either the Agency or its officers, and the last two series of plates arrived just before Christmas—having been held back, the one series for correction, and the other for use in printing a new edition.

Friendly Courtesy

In the prosecution of all these extraordinary duties we have met with the most courteous and friendly treatment, for the most part, from both official and nonofficial Austrians, who have lived up to their reputation for hospitality and kindness to the stranger within their gates. This is the more worthy of mention, because the prevailing religion is the Roman Catholic, whose adherents do not always look upon our Society's aims with approval. However, it is pleasant to be able to state that those firms which have thus far shown themselves best equipped to do our printing and binding, at the lowest figures consistent with careful workmanship and financial responsibility, have been evangelical firms that, for this reason, take a real interest in the manufacture of our Oriental Scriptures. And it would be a mistake to omit grateful reference to the official representatives of the United States here in Vienna, who have all,—the Minister, the two commer-

cial attachés, and the Consul,—at one time or another, exerted themselves to aid us in our unusual contacts with Austrian officialdom.

The representative of our sister Society (the British and Foreign) in charge of its Austrian work, Herr Döring, has also been of the greatest help in solving some of our problems. The fact, perfectly understood by him in advance of our coming, that we engage in no Bible work in Austria and, therefore, come in nowise into competition with his well-established shop and colportage work, has conducted to the fraternal relations already enjoyed both with him and with the other evangelical forces in Vienna, to which he has introduced us as coworkers.

Vienna thus begins to take its place alongside the earlier centers of this Agency as a place of manufacture, though but one edition was entirely finished before the end of the year—four thousand copies of the medium-sized Armeno-Turkish reference Bible, long since out of print and much needed, of which a thousand copies were immediately bound up. Other contracts were in press or in the binders' hands when the new year overtook us.

From the notification of removal quoted above, the fact appears quite plainly that the work of this Agency remains centered in the capitals of three lands: Turkey, Bulgaria, and New Greece—that northern portion which has been added through the late wars to the Greece of the beginning of this century. Instead of dividing our story into the three parts suggested by the three main lines of Bible work,—translation, publication, circulation,—we shall let the men at work in the three geographical divisions of the Agency recount what has been done during the past year in their own territory, whether that work belongs to one or to more of the above departments of our activity. And, at the end, we shall gather up the statistical results, add what is to be said of regions outside the bounds of those three territorial units, and point out the hopeful paths for future advance.

TURKEY

The substance, and for the most part the form, of the report for the Republic of Turkey is the work of Mr. MacCallum, who has now finished his first full year as sub-Agent in charge of all phases of our work at the Bible House, Stamboul.

The first weeks of 1928, he says, were rather tense. Two American teachers were accused of tampering with the religious convictions of a number of their Mohammedan pupils in the American school in the city of Brusa. The school was immediately closed, and the newspapers indulged in a campaign of inflammatory articles directed against all American religious institutions in Turkey. The Bible Society came in for a good share of these verbal brickbats. The Turkish Government, however, continued to maintain a fair and correct attitude toward this Society, and did not interfere with our operations. For this we are most grateful. Many Americans are possessed of the mistaken

idea that missionary activities are prohibited in Turkey. It is true that the sudden changes of the last few years have necessitated new methods to meet the new situation. But the work goes on. The chief handicap to religious and philanthropic work in Turkey is not so much the restrictions and safeguards which the Turks think it advisable to impose on foreigners, as the misunderstanding and lack of interest in America.

The New Alphabet

In August, 1928, President Mustapha Kemal Pasha announced that Turkey would adopt the Latin (Roman) alphabet for writing and printing Turkish. The Turk has always written his language with a borrowed alphabet—that of the Arab. But the Arabic characters have been an awkward means of indicating Turkish sounds, apart from the actual Arabic words incorporated by borrowing in the Turkish language. Because of this unsuitability, a Turk has had to spend more time and more patient effort than do other European and Western peoples in mastering the arts of reading and writing. The effort was so considerable, that at least seventy percent of the Turks never learned to read at all—still less learned to write. The use of Arabic characters had also the effect of cutting Turkey off most effectually from the Western world, where the Latin characters are nearly universal, and of binding her to Asiatic civilization.

This situation has now been altered with breath-taking suddenness. Turkish is henceforth to be written and printed phonetically, by means of the alphabet to which Westerners are accustomed. Not a vestige of the Arabic script is allowed in the grade schools. Drummers have gone through the streets and villages all over the Republic, declaring war on illiteracy, and calling upon all citizens, both men and women, above school age—that is, between the ages of sixteen and forty—to attend the special classes opened for them. Many thousands of such special schools have been opened. Study has suddenly become the fashion. (See the illustrated article by Mr. M. O. Williams in the January, 1929, number of the *National Geographic Magazine*.) The lazy are encouraged by threat of substantial and repeated fines for all who fail to learn within a specified period. It is also a punishable offence from January 1, 1929, to print anything in the old characters.

This reform has, of course, a direct and incalculable bearing on the Turkish work of the American Bible Society. On the one hand, our entire stock of Scriptures, together with the plates from which they are printed, have been rendered obsolete and must be replaced as promptly as possible by Scriptures in the accepted characters. Fortunately, there has, as yet, been no prohibition of the sale of books in the old characters, so that our printed stocks should serve to carry us through the transition period. On the other hand, the reform throws open a great new constituency to cultivation by the Bible Societies. Millions of people will be able to read the Scriptures, who could not have done so twelve months ago. The stoniest of fields, where the

Seed had little chance of taking root, is being miraculously changed into rich, virgin soil.

There is a persistent rumor that fundamental changes in the forms of Mohammedan worship in Turkey are to be introduced. Whether these whispers have any basis or not, they are causing a good many thoughtful Turks to wonder whether there are not values in non-Mohammedan religions which could advantageously be taken over into their system. One is again impressed by the important work which the Bible Society is doing, in publishing and circulating the Book "without note or comment," unhampered therefore by existing prejudices against creeds, forms of worship, and particular nationalities.

Revision

Now that all our Turkish Scriptures must be reprinted in the new script, the wisdom of the New York Committee's decision two years ago to revise the Gospels, Acts, and Psalms becomes still more apparent. In these new characters will appear a new and approved text. After nearly two years spent in the search for a suitable Turkish translator, the Society was this year more fortunate in securing the services of a distinguished Turk—author, philosopher, poet. His revision of the Psalms, begun in April, was completed in September. But as he worked quite alone and with the help of versions (both ancient and modern) only, it was necessary that his text should be compared word for word with the original Hebrew. At the request of the American Bible Society, the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions generously gave permission for the Rev. F. W. MacCallum, D.D., to devote a large share of his time to this revision work. Dr. MacCallum has spent thirty-eight years in Turkey, during the last fifteen of which he has been head of the publication department of the Turkey Mission. With the aid of careful Turkish assistants he is preparing the manuscript of the Psalms for publication.

In November another gifted Turkish gentleman undertook the revision of Luke's Gospel. This revision is so radical as to amount practically to a new translation. It is in such simple language, that people of very modest education will be able to understand it without difficulty. Yet, the diction is so pure and suited to the thought, that great hopes are entertained that cultured people also will read it with keen pleasure. The complete manuscript of Luke, privately circulated in multigraphed copies for criticism, has received hearty and even enthusiastic approval from the Turks and foreigners who have read it, and is at this writing almost ready for publication.

When these books are printed within the next few months, the Turks will possess the Psalms and Luke in clear, agreeable style and modern script. But this work must be pressed with all possible energy, until Turkey's fourteen millions have the entire Word of God, in language that all can understand, and printed in the national alphabet.

Manufacture

The past year, for the first time since the presses of our Armenian printer were seized during the troubles of 1923, Scriptures have been printed in Constantinople. The printing from plates consisted of an edition of 2,000 16mo Modern Armenian New Testaments, and 15,000 Armeno-Turkish single Gospels and Acts.

When the Latin commenced to replace the Arabic characters for writing Turkish, the Bible Society felt the urgent need for Scriptures in the new characters. On every hand our colporteurs were met with the demand, "Bring us books in the new letters. These old ones are not worth anything any more." There was need to produce something quickly, something in the nature of a reader. It was decided, therefore, to issue a "biscript"—that is, a volume having the same text in both the old and the new script on opposite pages. The Book of Proverbs was selected as being the one best suited to the needs of the moment. In cooperation with the British and Foreign Bible Society an edition was printed, of which the American Society's share was 4,000. This is, as far as we know, the only biscript book issued in Turkey (with the exception of a few primers); and with its attractive picture cover it promises to sell rapidly and be very useful. Advantage has also been taken of its being set up in Latin script, to issue a considerable edition of Proverbs in these characters alone. But it is unlikely that any other book of the Bible will be issued in the old version. Into the "new bottles" of the Western type will be put the "new wine" of the Revised Turkish Version.

Distribution

Distribution remains our most difficult problem in Turkey. Beyond the limits of Constantinople comparatively little is done. During the last two years dealers in most of the larger cities and towns of Turkey have been persuaded to stock a few Bibles and Testaments. Although their sales are not large, this is a hopeful feature of the work. When first approached, a Smyrna dealer replied, "We have been in the book trade here for over thirty years, and in all that time no customer has ever once asked for a Bible." Yet during 1928, thanks to the power of newspaper advertising, that very dealer sold twenty-three Turkish Bibles for us.

Our chief means of contact with the people of Turkey has been through the daily press. For a large part of the past year even this avenue was closed, due to the state of public opinion as a result of the Brusa incident referred to at the beginning of this report. But by September it was possible to renew our advertisements in the Turkish papers. Our last and most successful advertisement offered the Bible as a treasury of stories, poems, and addresses; a book which reveals the true worth and capacities of human personality, and explains the secret of a happy and useful life. This brought replies from hundreds of people in all parts of Turkey—judges and prisoners, gov-

ernors and apprentices, merchants and farmers, above all teachers, sent in their orders. This resulted in the most widespread distribution of the Turkish Scriptures which we have had in Turkey for ten years or more, and who can tell what the results may be?

Meanwhile, within Constantinople our two faithful Armenian colporteurs have continued on their rounds. Colporteur Bedros Dedeyan, who had served the Agency for over thirty-five years when, on February 9, 1929, he passed suddenly away with an attack of heart disease, reported a good many sales last year among Armenian Catholics, numbers of whom are now coming to Constantinople from their homes in the interior. He expressed astonishment at their ignorance of the Bible. As he would tell them of the Garden of Eden, of the Flood, of Daniel, and of Jesus' life and ministry, they would listen as curiously as though this were the latest news. They often purchase eagerly in order to read these things for themselves. Colporteur Garabed Baronian, while telling of a difficult year, hopes that the new interest in reading which has come to all classes with the introduction of the Latin characters, will have a beneficial effect on Scripture reading as the Bible Society issues portions in the new script. For five months of the year these two were ably assisted by a Russian refugee, who has succeeded in building up a thriving butter business and is keen to interest his customers and friends in Bibles as well as in trade.

A Tour in Anatolia

In April and May the sub-Agent made a tour through the central part of Anatolia, which took him through a number of Turkey's most important centers as well as into mountain regions where no foreigner has been since the explorations of German officers in wartime. Everywhere he and his missionary companion were most hospitably received and treated to the best that the village afforded. The travelers tried to make some small return for this kindness by setting their portable phonograph to work. Many of their listeners had never heard this sort of music before and were delighted with it. Between records village affairs were discussed—matters of water supply, crops and health, and often the talk turned to moral and spiritual problems. No great number of Scriptures were distributed, for the time was not opportune, but this simple friendship with these sturdy mountaineers was a rewarding experience. One longs for the day when the gospel message of love and good will will at last free these children from their lifelong bondage to fear, oppression, and ignorance.

A Significant Event

One evening in March the sub-Agent attended a lecture on "The Place of Religion in Nationalism," given by a distinguished Turkish professor at the "Turk Ojak" of Stamboul. The Turk Ojak, of which chapters are found throughout the Republic, is the young people's Nationalist club, exclusively Turkish and rather suspicious of foreign reli-

gious work in Turkey. About halfway through his lecture the professor opened a large book he had brought with him and commenced to read. It was the words of a Hebrew prophet named Amos, and the book was one of this Society's Turkish Bibles. Warming to his theme, the lecturer continued to read striking passages. Joel, Isaiah, Habakkuk, Jesus and Paul spoke in turn to that audience. It was a remarkable evening. No foreigner, no Christian could have got a hearing on such a subject. Yet those keen young people, the pride and hope of Turkey, listened intently for three-quarters of an hour to the Bible, when read to them by a Moslem Turk. It seemed a significant and hopeful event.

BULGARIA

The series of earthquakes that devastated some of the best regions of this little struggling kingdom occurred in the spring of 1928, and had a most depressing effect on the whole country throughout the year. Indeed, it will be a long time yet before those effects cease to be felt. The outside world, moved at the time to sympathy and aid, had for the most part forgotten the disaster before the official report of its extent could be made public. According to the official figures, the catastrophe was vastly greater than has ever been generally realized outside Bulgaria. There were destroyed 304 government buildings, 400 school-houses, 247 churches, 102 cooperative buildings, and of private dwellings and other structures, 77,472, worth all together 6,334,251,600 levs or \$45,733,496. The towns and villages affected numbered 279, of which 142 were entirely ruined; and 103 people were killed, and 265,000 were rendered homeless. Happily, the staff of the American Bible Society was not very seriously affected. The Rev. Mr. Popoff, our sub-Agent, and Mrs. Popoff happened to be in Tatar Pazardjik, quite near to the center of the worst quake, attending a temperance congress, and Mr. Popoff had just finished his address at the popular evening meeting, when the awful grinding and upheavals came. They consider themselves most fortunate to have escaped from the front of the crowded church, by jumping from a window, with no more injury than a badly sprained ankle for Mr. Popoff to nurse for several weeks thereafter.

After the earthquake came drought—a drought which was felt all over southwestern Europe, but nowhere more than in Bulgaria. It did not cause absolute famine. But it increased enormously the already high cost of living, as measured by the standards of Bulgarian poverty. The simplest foodstuffs, such as beans and potatoes, which furnish the bulk of the common people's diet, sold for from three to five times the price of the previous year. For a nation, the great mass of whose inhabitants have since the Great War lived so close to the margin of economic disaster as the Bulgarians have, the occurrence in one year of such earthquakes and such a drought was nothing short of cataclysmic.

These introductory remarks are essential to a proper understanding of the following story of the Society's work in Bulgaria, as told by the sub-Agent.

Distribution Doubled

Considering the poor financial situation of the country, and the two calamities mentioned, the circulation of the Scriptures has been remarkably good. It has been carried on as heretofore by colporteurs, through correspondents, and from the Sofia depository. By all these means combined, the total distribution has been:

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Value</i>
Sales	3,325	5,334	15,084	23,743	\$4,734.64
Donations	255	32	1,110	1,397	230.45
Total	3,580	5,366	16,194	25,140	\$4,965.09

These issues have been in 32 languages and scripts. And as compared with the issues in the previous year, the above figures represent in each case an *increase* of—

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Value</i>
Sales	1,112	1,333	8,712	11,157	\$1,650.68
Donations	234	32	1,110	1,376	216.85
Total	1,346	1,365	9,822	12,533	\$1,867.53

This means an increase of 100 percent in number of volumes and of 60 percent in their value.

The sub-Agent and his fellow-workers can certainly feel great gratification to have made such advance in such a year. While they attribute the increase of sales to increased religious interest, the donations are the outcome of the special need of the earthquake victims. Scriptures were distributed to these sufferers gratis, though all too sparingly, owing to lack of larger funds.

Colporteurs

Five men on salary and commission, and two on commission only, have throughout the year quite thoroughly covered the territory allotted to our Society in Bulgaria. Yanko Doytcheff, now a veteran of over seventy, has toured but very little from his home town, Philippopolis, as he is unable to bear the exposures of traveling. Spas Stephanoff and his son Stephen, and the other two salaried men, Papratiloff and Haritonoff, have been moving about mostly by train; while the two on commission, Ivanoff and Georgieff, are doing excellent work in the villages, going from village to village and from house to house. They go mostly on foot, bearing the precious books on their backs, and sometimes in one day covering two or three villages when near each other and small. Nicola Ivanoff, brother of the above, who had been working with his brother as if the two were but one man, begins now to work by himself on the same commission, touring other villages. And a fourth man has just been taken on for trial on the same arrangement, to work in extreme southeastern Bulgaria. One difficulty with these humble but very earnest men is that they cannot prepare reports properly for lack of education; but the sub-Agent is managing that for them. A recent law about peddling wares has set up certain restrictions, which, it was feared, would very much hamper our col-

portage. But so far our men, armed with an official certificate from the Bible Society, have had little difficulty from this source.

Mr. Popoff, having never met three of these men, and feeling the need of a personal exchange of views on the work, arranged for a conference in Sofia, which was held on the 15th of December, seven of the eight being present, besides the sub-Agent and his shopman. After an hour spent in devotional exercises and personal testimony, he gave them a talk on the Society and its aims, explaining its work in all parts of the world and how it gets its support. Then each man was allowed to discuss the difficulties in the work and to tell his own methods of overcoming them. On the whole the conference proved helpful and worthwhile.

Other Channels of Distribution

Sixteen correspondents have been working on the basis of a commission. Such people have been very valuable helpers, and Mr. Popoff is constantly on the lookout for more of them. Very often by them are reached persons and places quite inaccessible to the colporteurs. The depository remains in the same place as heretofore, though there is a change in the address, owing to the fact that, being on a corner, it is now counted as belonging to the intersecting street. Instead of 36 Ulitza Vitosha as formerly, it is now 40 Ulitza Soloun. It is always crowded to overflowing with Scriptures, many of which are Bulgarian issues of the British and Foreign Bible Society printed in Sofia and destined ultimately for purchase by our own Agency, admitted therefore by our representative to free storage on his premises, in order to save both Societies the cost of freight between Sofia and the British Society's warehouse in Varna—to the one the freight out, and to the other the freight back. During the past year there has been a better supply of books on hand, though the vigorous and growing sales sometimes exhaust the supplies before more are ready. The new edition of the Bulgarian New Testament is proving a good seller; but, just when it was issued, the miniature New Testament was entirely exhausted. That also sells very well, and so well that the British Society is now reprinting it. The Holy Synod of the Bulgarian National (Orthodox) Church has at length acceded to our request to furnish us copies of their New Testament at 25 levs, instead of 30, which is its selling price. Their decision was to give no reduction whatever to anyone. We shall now take some of these, so that we may offer them to those who refuse to take the Bible Society issues on the ground that they are "Protestant." While the Synod has had this Testament finished for more than two years, they have not hitherto put it on sale, wishing first to sell all the edition of the entire Bible—a very expensive book. But the Bibles not being fast sellers, in spite of all the pressure the clergy could bring to bear, they have decided to wait no longer to put their New Testament on the market. In our petition to the Synod for a discount, we explained that the Bible Societies do not

work for a profit, and that they make no propaganda, but simply wish to offer the Scriptures to every man and woman in Bulgaria; but that they cannot ask their colporteurs and correspondents to work for nothing. Hereupon the Synod altered its decision and gave the 20 percent discount.

A Centennial

The first translation of the Four Gospels into Bulgarian was made in 1828. The Holy Synod appointed the 16th and 17th of June, 1928, for the commemoration of that first version. On the 16th all the Sofia schools were to devote the last hour of the session to talks to the pupils on the significance of that translation in the literary and religious history of Bulgaria; and on the 17th a special commemoration service was held in one of the leading Orthodox churches of Sofia. A copy of that first issue of the Four Gospels, which is now hard to get, may be seen in America in the library of the Auburn Theological Seminary, having been secured for it by Mr. Popoff, who is a graduate of that institution.

Bible Sunday

This year Bible Sunday, the 9th of December, was not celebrated by the evangelical churches as generally as in recent years. At least, so far, fewer churches have responded to the call to forward the contributions taken up on that day. Two reasons account for this. No special letter was sent out this year to the pastors, because, in view of the financial stress in the country, a vote was passed, in the autumn church conference, ordering that all requests for contributions from the churches for any special object be first approved by the special bureau. Application for such approval was asked, but no reply was received. Therefore it was left to the discretion of each pastor to respond or not to the needs as set forth in the evangelical religious weekly. The other reason was the late arrival of the literature for Bible Sunday; for such material needs to be available at least two months in advance, so that it can be translated, for use in the paper and by such of the pastors as do not read English. The editor of the *Zornitsa* did not consent this year to give the Bible Societies an entire issue of the paper; however, in two successive issues of it there appeared a variety of material about the Bible and Bible work, and an appeal to the pastors to remember it. This year, as previously, the contributions received will be divided between the two Bible Societies equally.

The Bible in Hotels

Through a friend of the sub-Agent, who is proprietor of one of the larger Sofia hotels and also president of the Bulgarian Hoteliers' Association, a beginning has been made of putting Bibles in the hotel rooms for the use of guests. Consent can be obtained of the other proprietors, and the servants report that the Bibles placed are being read; but, alas, where are the necessary books, and funds to buy them? Although an appeal was made in the above-mentioned weekly, thus

far only one man has responded in Varna with a gift of 300 levs (\$2.16), and one man in Sofia has given five Bibles.

Gypsy Gospels

M. Atanasakieff, the translator of the Gospels into the gypsy dialect spoken in Bulgaria, whose version is to be printed in Bulgarian characters,—the only letters known to these Gypsies,—is working on; but the work is proceeding rather slowly, on account of difficulties in the language, there being no dictionary, no grammar, nor anything hitherto printed in it, excepting a few tracts. A missionary working among the Jews in Bulgaria reports that there are tens of thousands of Sephardim (Spanish-speaking) Jews in that country, who find great difficulty in reading the Judæo-Spanish Scriptures published by this Agency, not only because of their ignorance of all other characters than the Cyrillic alphabet (that used for the Bulgarian and other Slavic languages), but also because the dialect of Spanish they use in their living, spoken language, is so different from that of our version. He has, therefore, urged that a start be made on turning at least the Gospels into this dialect and publishing them in Bulgarian letters. If he is right in saying that such a version would be understood by all the Sephardim Jews who live in lands where the Cyrillic letters are used, it would appear that there is a real call for one of the Bible Societies to undertake this work. Owing to the probability that dialectical variations prevail in the Spanish spoken by these widely dispersed Jewish groups, it might best serve the needs of the largest number simply to transliterate the existing Judæo-Spanish Version from Hebrew letters into Cyrillic letters. Certainly, thus far the Bible can scarcely be said to have been made available to such great minority groups as the Gypsies and the Jews, who happen to live in lands where other alphabets than our own are in use.

Some Experiences

Just a few experiences of our colporteurs can find a place in this report, though they have many interesting stories to tell. Papratiloff, at work for a year now in the politically perturbed southwestern part of Bulgaria, writes: "In the village of Dolna Bania I found a greater hunger for the Word of God than I have found anywhere else. One young man had saved money for a new hat; he made up his mind to go without the hat, but to have a Testament. Another borrowed money to buy a Testament and said he would work the next day in the match factory to earn money to repay the money borrowed for it." Doytcheff reports from Philippopolis that there is so much interest on the part of the Jewish youth in buying the Bulgarian New Testament, that many Testaments have been ordered bound without the usual cross on the cover; presumably so that they may buy and read the book without arousing the attention and opposition from fellow-Jews that this symbol would attract.

A Russian refugee monk (Orthodox), who wished a Bible in Russian, but had absolutely no money to pay for it, was given one as a present. He is in a monastery, and writes Mr. Popoff from there: "The Bible you sent me..... was received. I cannot hide my joy and the satisfaction of my soul, that you responded to my wish and sent me a Russian Bible. I heartily thank you and pray that Christ the Saviour may grant you many years yet to live for the good of humanity and for the advancement of Christ's kingdom. I beg of you to pass on my thanks to the person that paid for the Bible sent me."

Stephen Stephanoff writes: "There is a large number of people for whom the day is night, and the night, day. I am not referring to the miner or the night-worker in factories. There is another great throng of men, who every night fill the saloons in the big cities. I find them at late hours, sitting around a glass of wine, jubilant, loudly conversing, seeking some of them pleasure, and others, self-forgetfulness. A dark night is over them; for their lust for evil is excited to the utmost. And when I stand by them with the words, 'Buy a Bible, or a Testament,' they laugh and point me to the glasses full of wine, saying, 'Here is our gospel, our joy, our life.' Others again cry out, 'Away with your gospel!' and sometimes they sneer at me." (The colporteur who does this is a university man of refinement in appearance and manner.) "But there are others, also, who are serious and buy. Sometimes serious conversations follow; and, often, touching confessions. After such talks, truth often shines out, darkness and intoxication vanish, and many say, 'What shall we do? Oh, that it were possible to be delivered from these shackles!' Other night work is sowing the seed on trains and in railway stations. At almost every station there are people getting on or off trains; especially people waiting at junction stations. At the end of the two or three seasons of the year when builders, harvesters, gardeners, and other workers scatter from their mountain villages all over Bulgaria, and even beyond the borders, for seasonal work, one finds them on the trains returning home with their earnings, and at such times our sales are good. Shouting and singing, the crowds fill the trains and stations; day blends with night, and there is hardly an hour or minute of the night when I have not sold the Word. Thus the seed is scattered whither a colporteur's foot would scarcely ever go—in the mountain hamlets where these men live. Sometimes when in the night I offer the Bible to those awake, those who have been sleeping protest, saying, 'At least, don't trouble us at night with your wares.' To some my reply is, 'Remember that in the night also you have been invited to turn to God, and when you appear before him to give your account, it may be this night invitation that will save you or condemn you.' In my work I always remember the words of Paul, 'I ceased not to admonish every one night and day'; and the exhortation to Timothy, 'Preach the Word in season and out of season.' All this is preparing a spiritual awakening for the land of Bulgaria, through the blessing of God."

MACEDONIA AND THRACE

We have space for but little in the way of reports from Greece, where a graph of the year's work would present a singular down-and-up curve. The dengue fever which raged throughout the Mediterranean lands, notably in Greece, prostrating all classes, from M. Venizelos, the Premier, to the humblest refugee, and taking toll of many lives both directly and through the fatal ending of illnesses complicated by it,—reduced the home of one of our colporteurs to a hospital for every member of the family. Another—our oldest colporteur and also our most successful—passed many weary months in sickness and at last succumbed, leaving a family who can ill spare the chief breadwinner. Naturally, the sales fell off greatly during this time.

But the last two and a half months of 1928 were brightened, and the prospects for 1929 are made rosy, by the accession of two fine young men, who have decided to give up their business, in which they were making at least twice as much income as the Society can ever give them, and to become merchants of the Word of God. To one, the nephew of M. Tokatlides, our faithful superintendent of colportage, has been committed western Thrace, the section formerly served by M. Soranides, who died. And to Pylarinos, a zealous young man willing to endure hardships for the sake of Christ, has been committed the neglected region—very fanatical compared with Thrace or Salonika—lying to the east of Salonika, in the famous Chalcidice Peninsula and on the mainland back of it, which includes several towns of considerable size. This territory, forever sacred to the Christian by its association with the first spread of the gospel in Europe through the Apostle Paul and his companions, is in as much need of the gospel today as many a land that has but lately seen its first Christian missionary; and the tales of bigotry and persecution encountered by our colporteur in trying simply to sell the New Testament to Christians—the Testament in Ancient Greek to those who will not tolerate it in Modern Greek—prove how much the spirit of the gospel is needed to “turn the world upside down” again in old Thessalonika and its neighboring towns.

M. Tokatlides in his report rejoices that, in spite of the illness and death in his little force, the total sales fell but a trifle below the sales of last year. And at the rate the new men have been selling, we can hope for a real step forward in our work in New Greece another year. He sees ground for hope, too, in the fact that “prominent people, government officials, officers, policemen, not content with the irreligious and immoral life they are leading, are buying the Bible.” Speaking of the circulation of our Judæo-Spanish Scriptures among the many Jews of that region, he says the chief difficulty is the same old worship of Mammon among that race, which has been the enemy to its religion since ancient times. Money making and business so engross their thoughts that it is hard for the Word to get an entrance. He has had the great joy of leading a prominent Turkish exile—a former

governor, a member of the late Kiamil Pasha's party—to Christ, so that he now asks Christian baptism.

Opposition has arisen from such opposite extremes as Bolshevistic communists with the usual atheistic, anti-Biblical prejudices, and ultra-conservative "old calendar" Orthodox priests and people—those who regard the recent adoption of our Western calendar as a surrender to Rome, and who reproach our workers with being the tools of a too radical government. Thus we must continue on the simple course marked out in every situation, even the most complicated, by both our constitution and our conscience, selling everywhere the Scriptures "without note or comment," for men to take or leave.

Summary and Conclusion

Gathering up the returns for the year's work and comparing them with that of the former year, we find advance in every direction, though at different rates. In the department of manufacture, if we count volumes *completed* (as required for the statistical reports) so as to be ready to put into circulation, 1928 witnessed the turning out of 35,367 volumes as against 13,935 in 1927—an increase of 21,432 volumes or 154 percent; if we count the volumes *printed*, we report 34,770 for last year, against just 10,000 in 1927—an increase of 247 percent. Turning now to distribution, the increase in sales, properly speaking, was 7,751 volumes (from 38,273 to 46,024) or 20 percent; and this was almost wholly through our own channels of distribution, as the sales to the British and Foreign Bible Society remained almost stationary (12,669 against 11,897). On the other hand, we had to purchase from our sister Society 6,756 more volumes than in the previous year—an increase of 35 percent. In circulation, we report for 1928, 47,512 volumes, and for 1927, 38,560, an increase of 8,952 volumes or 23 percent. This circulation was in 38 languages, dialects or scripts, not counting diglots or biscripts separately; in 1927 the total was 36.

Geographical Classification of Issues

(Exclusive of sales to the British and Foreign Bible Society)

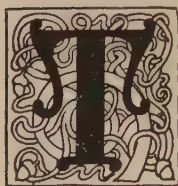
	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Turkey	971	383	900	2,254
Bulgaria	3,580	5,366	16,194	25,140
Greece	707	2,386	2,868	5,961
Syria	2,230	2,431	6,800	11,461
United States	286	35	50	371
England	2	1	.....	3
France	130	306	4	440
Finland	1	1	.....	2
Total	7,907	10,909	26,816	45,632

In view of the above encouraging figures, we thank God and take courage for the year that is beginning. Very much land remains to be possessed, but our staff is in better working condition, our territory is (within the limits at present accessible) more thoroughly covered, and our depleted stocks of Scriptures are more nearly replaced than at any previous time since the Great War.

ARABIC LEVANT

The Arabic-Levant Agency was established in 1921. The territory which it serves includes Syria, Palestine, Arabia, Mesopotamia or Iraq, Egypt, and the Sudan. The Agency Secretary is William S. Strong. Mr. C. S. Bell, Acting Agency Secretary, 13 Nubar Pasha, Cairo, Egypt.

The circulation for the year 1928 was 6,291 Bibles, 13,667 Testaments, and 317,099 portions, making a total of 337,057 volumes. The total circulation since the establishment of the Agency is now 1,097,607 volumes. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 20 colporteurs, 70 correspondents, and 225 volunteers.



TURKEY is not the only country experiencing the throes of a new life. Egypt and other parts of the Near East are going through unforeseen changes—changes in political ideas, in social practices, and in religious ideals. The circulation of the Scriptures has greatly advanced. Sad indeed must have been the experience revealed in these contrasting sentences—"All the doors are open, inviting us to enter"; and "During the past year we have had several months when we did not have a single copy of Gospel portions in the depot—funds were not available to supply the demand." No wonder the Secretary writes, "We dare not go on with any more propaganda, lest we be inundated with demands we would find ourselves utterly unable to supply." Bible work in the Near East, as in Latin America, has been feeling the pinch and problem of inadequate appropriations. Should this continue? Read the story of the year.

What has God wrought in these diversified countries?

Beyond the fact that we know that, during this year, some 300,000 copies have been placed in the hands of the population scattered throughout the Near East, which, but for some one million Copts in Egypt and 600,000 Syrian Christians in Syria, are all Moslems, we have no means by which to estimate the real results. A noted missionary asked me one day where all our Scriptures went to; for he had heard that they were sold by hundreds of thousands in Egypt. We could only reply that, if we only sought to supply the Copts with Scriptures, then this has practically been done; hence the Scriptures must have reached the Moslems in Egypt by hundreds of thousands.

On our various journeys in the country, we find that, when away from the busy towns and not interrupted by sheiks, the people receive

us gladly and are very willing to receive copies of the Gospels. We have taken many such journeys into the country to test the receptibility of the common people, and here we find the conditions just as of old, when it was told "the common people heard Him gladly."

We have seen cases when, at such times, men with a group of earnest listeners have read story after story to them. When it comes to listening to stories, these people in the country, with apparently little to do, are always ready; and seeing the keen enjoyment shown on such faces, one can only come to the conclusion that to them it is a feast for the soul.

Could we but measure the work such stories are doing in the minds and hearts of such listeners, we would never give way to discouragements or be depressed at the little headway measured by statistics. The leaven is slowly but surely leavening the lump. To us who are looking for signs of an awakening, we can register just signs of the leavening process all over these near eastern Mohammedan countries.

It is seen in the changing of politics, education, health; in the throwing away of old customs which have barred both men and women from all opportunities of knowing the better way; in the gradual reformation in Moslem form of worship where strong parties are agitating for the spirit of worship rather than the form—in fact, doing away with the form altogether. We may well cite an incident here which, in past years, could not have occurred, for the conversation alone would have been dire heterodoxy, and punished as such.

The following appeared in the Turkish newspaper *Vakut* March 7, 1928, and copied from the *Moslem World*:

A Moslem Magistrate Speaks Out

"Abulmazfar Ahmed Sahib Bey, a notable Moslem magistrate of Calcutta, India, expressed the following to one of the editors of the *Vakut* concerning the aims of the Society which he represents:

"The aim of the Islam Educational Society is to modernize Islam. The number of Moslems who are performing their religious duties is decreasing, because of the extreme formalism in prayer and worship. The educated people all over the Moslem world are finding it impossible to perform all their religious duties. The only reason for such a situation is, that we are bound too much to the exact performance of rituals. The aim of religion is to teach us principles. It is necessary to interpret these principles according to the times in which we live. My sincere conviction is that, if we want to revive the religious life of Moslems, we must then put an end to these rites and ceremonies; i. e., we must eliminate the bowings, prostrations, and standings in prayer, and make it consist rather of an inner humility. While in Egypt, I was called to a tea party in the house of one of the leading men of Cairo. There were about twenty persons in the party. During the tea, the call for the evening prayer was heard from an adjacent mosque. But the host neither offered his prayer, nor did he call on

us to do so. Whereupon I called his attention to the matter, and told him that, if we had not these ceremonial ways of bowing, prostrating, and standing during prayer, we could offer our prayers on our chairs by turning our minds for a few moments to God.

"Much discussion followed upon my remark at the party, although we could not come to a definite conclusion. However, there are educated men in Egypt who agree with me. In Syria and Palestine also, I succeeded in convincing some people to this view. Now, all my hope is that the Turkish 'intelligentsia' also should be interested in this matter."

We cannot help notice the movement of women's societies for liberty. They, in the near future, will show to men that they also have souls whose spiritual life needs caring for. One may fill pages of such moving of the dead bones; but it is sufficient to show that the *leaven* is working, and we rejoice in abundant opportunities of "sowing the seed"; but, alas, we have never had sufficient seed for these fields. With a little extra effort, these fields coming under the supervision of the Arabic-Levant Agency would easily absorb one million copies a year; and when such joy is ours, we shall see the Scriptures read all through Egypt in every city, town and village. The million copies would not only reach that number of people, but the eargates of multitudes of men and women who cannot read would rejoice in hearing the words of comfort and life spoken by our Lord Jesus Christ.

Circulation

It is always a source of both pleasure and encouragement to reach certain landmarks during one's life and labor; and thus, in totaling up the circulation of this Agency, and seeing the million figure, one cannot but stop to think and consider this million copies. Where have they gone to? How many are still in the homes and hands of the people? What have they accomplished? To it all, there is but one answer, and that is, "My Word shall not return unto me void."

Should we have had to record a decrease instead of an increase, we might have felt disappointed, although not downhearted. But, with such rapid strides, we can only come to the conclusion that these old and far countries—antigospel countries—are now absorbing the written message.

We have cause, indeed, to rejoice in abundant opportunities for sowing; yet, with all our endeavor, we have not been able to supply the demand. My estimate at the beginning of this year was 500,000 copies; and this would have been the circulation, had we been able to stretch our funds thus far.

Our appropriation seems to have attained to a permanent figure; but from that same figure the following circulation resulted:

	<i>Volumes</i>
1927.....	192,597
1928.....	337,057

With the same appropriation for the coming year, but with ever greater demands, your Secretary is studying very carefully the ways and means by which the circulation can be increased fifty per cent during 1929 over that of 1928.

We have come to a state in the history of this Agency when we see all the doors open inviting us to enter, and we pray that means may be forthcoming to enable us to do so; for there may be a time when these very doors will be closed. It seems to many of us to be the psychological moment for a strong advance; but, alas, we are compelled to stand still and wait.

A Spring Itinerary in the Near East

During the past year the Secretary has been able to make a thorough survey of all the Near East Arabic-speaking countries, and during the spring of this year, he motored some 6,000 kilometers all over Palestine, Transjordan, and Syria, crossed the north desert to Mosul,—passing through Deir Ez-Zor en route,—and during the two months thus spent visited all the leading centers in these countries. All the American missions in these countries were visited, and in Palestine alone some thirteen American missions were found at work, and nearly all of these very ready to join in a more active campaign of “seed sowing” by the means of the circulation of the Scriptures. Good news of this has already come from Iraq, where both the Arabic and the Syrian Churches were enlisted in the work of circulating the Scriptures as the most effective way of evangelization.

Open Doors

It is a great joy to know that the Scriptures have found an entrance in a general way among the masses; but we have a long list of specific tasks which, when our funds will permit, will be undertaken and which will show yet more clearly that we have here large fields for operation.

1. There is need of a thorough canvass of every large city in Egypt.

2. Intensive propaganda among the Copts.

3. The many oases all over Egypt, Sinai in the Arabian desert, are calling loudly to us for the message of life.

4. Specific work by the best men we can secure should be undertaken among the educated Moslems.

5. The black map of Syria needs the light of the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ.

6. Palestine with its conglomeration of peoples of all creeds needs to see Him the Saviour of all mankind.

And we might go on enumerating many more such open doors.

During the past two years your Secretary has studied very minutely the conditions prevailing in Egypt, Palestine, and Syria, and finds that the time is ripe for stronger measures, and that many new avenues of approach could easily be opened.

The sad fact is, that the field as already exploited will absorb all that our present funds can provide. We dare not go on with any more propaganda, lest we should be inundated with demands that we should find it utterly impossible to supply.

Bible Sunday

Extract from a letter written by the Rev. Geo. H. Scherer, Beirut:

"The 750 piasters from the Beirut Church include a gift of 200 piasters from a poor woman, who is now working in the American Press. This woman has a blind and crippled husband and two children. Our colporteur found the family in a mountain village in Lebanon in an almost starving condition, and helped them with what was immediately required. The mother vowed that, if she found work, she would give 25 piasters weekly to the American Bible Society in gratitude for what the Bible Society colporteur had done for her. She came to Beirut just when the American Press needed an extra worker in the folding department. These 200 piasters are the largest single gift from any member of the Beirut Church, and represent a very large sum, in proportion to her income and needs."

Publications

It is with pleasure that we are able again to record a very substantial increase over last year's production. We feared very much, in the beginning of the year, that our printing facilities would not suffice for larger issues than in 1927; but, by some rearrangement of press work, it was found that the presses already at work would be able to do a great deal more; and, instead of 192,000 copies in 1927, we have this year published 491,600 copies; i. e., an increase of 250 percent over 1927.

These figures, however, do not mean that our supply was equal to the demand; for it is a fact that, for four or five months during the year, we have not had a single copy of the Gospels in stock in our Cairo depot. The Press, however, was able to print all that we could pay for.

The past year's production seems to be the limit of their capacity. And, as we do not expect to remain stationary, we have a problem before us that needs early attention.

Shilluk St. Matthew

In 1928, the Rev. D. S. Oyler completed his translation of the Gospel of St. John into Shilluk, a pagan language in the south of Sudan. In 1927, he completed St. Matthew, and during this year we have published this Gospel.

This work is a striking example of patience so infinite, that scarcely any word is rich enough to describe it. To enter a field occupied by a naked pagan tribe, to settle down among a hostile people without being able to exchange an idea, and to learn their language to such perfection that each sound has been expressed in Latin letters—is

indeed a labor of love and patience that calls for our deepest appreciation. The next task is to teach this people to read their own language, and we trust that Dr. Oyler will live to see the fruit of his labor.

EGYPT

The end of this year sees us with a diminished staff of colporteurs, and the time has come in Egypt when we believe it advisable to reduce this staff more and more. The fact is, that we have no district in Egypt, with the exception of the various oases, that can be said to be "unoccupied fields"; for churches and preaching chapels are well scattered all over the country and become thus territories under the influence of the ordinary Christian activities. This does not by any means mean that we are withdrawing from the work, but rather that we are increasing our activities.

The paid colporteurs have done excellent work in the past, and a kind of work that could not be accomplished by any other agency; but, with Christians now living in almost every village, we look to the church and its members to take up this work. Our call to the churches for voluntary workers has not been in vain. Every church has supplied some, and as years go on we shall find that the churches will do their utmost in enlisting their members in this kind of evangelistic work that they can so easily perform. They have found that, in the circulation of Scriptures, they have an opening among the people, and that, apart from the conversation occasioned in such work, the "silent messenger" will continue to do its work.

From a financial point of view it is also desirable to reduce our heavy cost in keeping on these paid men. The colporteurs may sell at the average of 4,000 copies a year (the figure for this year showing an advance of twenty-five percent over last year); but, for the salary and traveling expenses of a colporteur for one year, we can produce over 20,000 copies of Gospels. During the past year we have had several months when we did not have a single copy of Gospel portions in the depot. The reason for such condition was not always due to the inability of the Press to produce, but that funds were not available to supply the demand for Scriptures.

The voluntary worker system is now well established in the churches all through this country; but as it is gaining momentum we are at a loss to know how we shall be able to supply the demand for the Water of Life for this thirsty land.

It may interest you to know that, during the year, four-fifths of our circulation was done by voluntary workers, and only one-fifth by colporteurs.

PALESTINE AND SYRIA

Our work in this country has been somewhat interrupted during the year, and a great deal of hostility has been shown against Christian work in general. In the beginning of the year, this was occasioned by distribution of a certain kind of Christian literature which gave offence

to the Moslems. There was nothing really offensive in these books but a mere mention of Mohammeed, and that was quite enough for the fanatical section to open up an anti-Christian propaganda, which, by the means of modern newspapers, was soon in full swing from Aleppo to Jerusalem, and also, in a lesser degree, in Egypt.

The second reason was the Jerusalem Conference. This made a tremendous stir among the Moslems and resulted in some serious persecution in both Transjordan and Palestine. After some inquiries, I found that this persecution was by no means a popular rising against Christianity, but was staged to a great extent by the more fanatical section and, by the means of the press, was easily propagated all over the Moslem world.

This kind of propaganda is nothing to be fearful about, as it mostly tends to popularize Christianity, and people seek to know more about these Christian books so much feared. When the first blaze or fire has burnt out, we shall probably find, as the result of it, a field better prepared for the "sowing of the seed." This, in fact, has already been the actual result in some places.

Egypt had its share in the press of this anti-Christian propaganda, but, in the face of that, we have doubled our circulation, and undoubtedly a great deal of this is due to free advertisement by this same propaganda.

Scripture Distribution in Palestine and Transjordan

The Rev. W. F. Smalley, Th.B., F.R.G.S., writes:

"In this land where so much of the Book was written, there are still large portions of the population who do not know it. The Moslems respect the Book—at a distance; the Jews revere the Old Testament; large portions of the Oriental Christians do not have the right to own or to read a copy.

"The general missionary situation in Palestine has returned to normal after the unfortunate circumstances which followed the International Missionary Council. Following that gathering, public opinion was so opposed to any sort of Christian work, that even members of the Oriental churches took their place with the Moslems and the Jews against Protestant missions.

"However, by this time most of that seems to have been forgotten, and those who sell Scriptures experience only the usual rebuffs. It has always been a difficult matter to dispose of large numbers of Scriptures, because so many well-meaning folks will continue to distribute freely. Often we are told: 'But why should we buy from you, when So-and-so will give us freely as many as we want?'

"Palestine has not seen anything like a mass movement toward Christianity. But there are always those who are asking the way of eternal life, and there are always those who are searching the Scriptures to find out this way more perfectly.

"In Transjordan the use of Scriptures has a relatively larger

place than in the work in Palestine, where there is a very large amount of institutional work. Our work in southern Transjordanian began in 1921, and well does the writer remember the day when the Prime Minister of that country, after having told him never to return to that country under any circumstances, said that he might return so long as he would distribute *no literature* but the Scriptures. A learned Moslem has a hard time with his conscience if he refuses the Scripture a place in his country; for *it has a place in his Koran*.

"Since that time I remember no time when the missionaries have had any trouble with the officials because of this distribution of Scriptures. That has been to us a great blessing to know that, whatever obstacles might be put in the way of institutions and other sorts of propaganda, still we may sell as many Scriptures as we can find people who will purchase. This does not mean large numbers. Our total sales are very small; but I suppose that this year they are five or six times as much as they have ever been previously.

"A man came into our house in Madaba. He was dressed in a long shirtlike affair, that had been formerly white. Long curls came down over his unshaven face. His bare feet showed the evidences of years of travel over desert land. But he could read. That made him an outstanding character in his tribe. He had heard in the market that we had books, and would we please give him one? He took it, looked it over, wrapped it in his headress, and went away. Before he went, he had been told the way of salvation, and agreed that it was a good way. A few days later, he came back and said that the Book was hard to read; that he had not found the good words in it that he had heard by word of mouth; and would we please take the book back? After he had been shown where the 'good words' were found, he was happy. He marked them well in the Book this time, and went away saying that he was going to read the Book from the beginning to the end. Moreover, he was going to use it with the boys that he wanted to teach to read, as a textbook.

"The next day his tribe moved away from the Madaba district, and we do not know where the man went; but there is a simple promise that we like to claim under such circumstances, and it is, 'My Word shall not return to me void.' "

Colportage in Syria

The Rev. George H. Scherer writes:—

"During the past year four colporteurs have been employed regularly, and part of the year five or six. During the year ending in June, 1927, the sales of Scriptures totaled 199 Bibles, 803 Testaments, and 1,588 portions. During the year ending in June, 1928, sales increased to 425 Bibles, 546 Testaments, and 9,515 portions. Of these fully half have been sold to Moslems. The most successful colporteur was a young man who graduated a year ago from Tripoli Boys' School, and who has been working principally in Beirut. After a visit to

June, in the Maronite (Catholic) district of Kesrawan, this colporteur received the following letter:—

“Dear Mr. Fouad Salim: After my abundant salutations, I ask hereby from you the excuse for my opposition to your work when you have honored Junia, and I thank you very much for your present (a Gospel), which I had not valued at the beginning, but now I put it in a high degree of my heart; and why not? and it is the words of our Master and Saviour Jesus Christ.

“I had been deceived, oh! my brother, before, and I used to think that the Protestants are a people different from the Maronite people; and I used to believe that the Maronite people are the single people who enter the heaven, because so our religious heads declare; and I used to believe that your Testament is all changed as the priest used to preach to us; but now today the veil has been lifted off from on my face, and I have seen the reality in its brightest means, after I have read *your Testament*, and which does not differ at all from our Testament; and so I pray you, when you come once more to Junia, not to leave before you visit me and let me hear the sweet words of Christ, which my ear likes to hear, and yet I like to know more about your religion.

“With my salutations, your beloved brother.”

Extracts from Our Sidon (Syria) Colporteur

He writes:—

“I sold twenty portions to Moslems very easily in Kawhaba (scene of the Druse-Maronite battle in 1925). On my way to Judeidat Merj-Ayun, I came to a bridge called Jisr el Khan to rest, where I saw three men who asked me about my job. I explained to them, and one of them asked for a Bible without payment. I told him that I can't do so, as instructed. Another one of them put out his hand, showing me that he had a New Testament, saying that, had he not feared his relatives and friends, he would have attended the service in church always.

“All our sales during this month were among the Maronites (Roman Catholics), who are the most difficult people under the sun; the Druses, though difficult, seem very easy as compared to them; for they bought about fifty of Bible picture books, and about sixty of Genesis, Job, and Songs of Solomon. The Maronites bought about twenty-five of the portions of the Bible. When we got to Reshmaya, they began to call us Protestants and followed us. I stayed a day and a night, and, had I stayed longer, they would have burned me with my books. They simply asked for love stories and such. Those who asked this were of the high class of the village, and they don't want to hear anything about our Master Jesus Christ. I knocked at about twenty doors to be put up for the night; but all were closed in my face, for I was carrying the Book of God and Jesus. As I was doing so, I met a woman, who invited me to her home. I neither knew her before, nor heard about her, but found out she was a teacher in an American school. Her

name is Sitt Adele. Poor she is; she does not sleep during the night; for order is lacking there. She is always afraid for her life, due to the religious persecution, not from the Druses and Moslems, but from the Maronite bishop, because she has about forty students in her school. She has always a revolver and a knife under her pillow to defend herself in case of danger. The bishop is having people coming to her at night throwing stones at her door. She always prays, and I had prayers with her that evening, and fortunately nothing happened that evening. I left her the next day on my way to Brih, where I sold a good deal, and then made to Mureijaat."

The salaries of these colporteurs are paid by the American Bible Society, except for a portion of the salary of the Sidon man, which is paid from funds in the hands of the American Press. As one knows these men, and appreciates the actual dangers they encounter and the risks they run, one must be filled with a deep respect and admiration for their devotion and faithfulness. And once one understands more fully how they are penetrating into villages and districts otherwise unreached, one becomes convinced of the value of their work as an agency of evangelism. The writer would call the attention of the mission to the fact that at present no mission funds, except the small amount paid by the American Press, are being spent in this form of evangelistic activity, and questions whether there is not a great opportunity here being ignored. There is a great need for a man to serve as a colporteur-evangelist, in the vast areas of Syria east of Aleppo—one whose work would not be judged alone on the basis of sales, but who would be expected to spend several days in any village which would accept him, and converse, discuss and preach, so far as he was permitted by the people. A single tour of the field in this way would require more than a year; but it would be a pioneer effort most valuable.

UPPER GALILEE

Miss M. T. Ford writes:—

"Our colporteur came back from the villages of Upper Galilee, where he had been for fourteen weeks, with a young man of the Bible Training School, whom I sent with him for the summer, as he, our regular colporteur, could not go alone to many places unvisited before among Matanileh and Druse people. The man (the colporteur) cannot go alone with safety, and would not either, as it is very difficult work. They had much blessing in witnessing and teaching the gospel. Though in some places no food would be given or even sold them, and in other places they were turned out entirely, yet this time—this tour—was better than at other times. The people have no money to buy books, and those distributed must be given free of charge or not at all; however, in these places some Gospels were sold.

"In Safad, Moslem opposition has been very acute. One day, some young Moslem men—students—came to me for Bibles. But I would not give them, and I asked a price. I knew they could pay something

for the Bibles. However, I gave them on my own responsibility each one a Gospel of Matthew. These they took away, and thanked me. Later, one colporteur, coming home in the evening, saw them standing in a field near my house and near the Moslem school, tearing up the books. However, one of them returned his Gospel uninjured. They began, as he (the colporteur) drew near, to curse me, my religion, the gospel, the Lord Jesus, and, last of all, they cursed his cross! We have had, however, Jews, Moslems, and Druses coming and asking to be taught.

"The young men have done good work in instructing and reading the Word of God to the people in their villages, and many have listened and paid good attention. Many had never heard the gospel before."

IRAQ

On the Sunday spent in the city of Mosul I spoke at the Arabic-Christian service in the morning, and at the Syrian Christian service in the afternoon. At both services the churches were full, and my message "Sowing the Seed" was appreciated and the leaders of both churches assured me that they were ready to do anything they could, in order to spread the gospel by the means of the circulation of Scriptures. They have thus been enlisted in this campaign, and, realizing what each of them can do for the evangelization of Iraq, they asked that Scriptures may be sent to them. This has been done, and we felt sure that, wherever a church takes up this work, they will be stimulated to do yet more.

The Rev. G. D. Van Beursem writes from Muscat, Arabia:—

"It is interesting to note that Bahrein leads in sales of complete Bibles; Kuwait in New Testaments, and Muscat in portions. I cannot speak for Bahrein and Kuwait, but the people of Muscat are very poor—which may account for the increased sales in portions. Our year in Muscat is only nine months. We close our bookshop during June, July, and August, and the colporteur leaves for his vacation in Iraq. It is unwise for missionaries and colporteurs, who are also foreign, to remain here for the hot months. The government school, which employs teachers from Palestine, closes four months in the summer when the teachers withdraw to the Holy Land. This makes our year short; but it seems the only way in Muscat.

"It is not an easy matter to sell a Bible or even a portion to a full-grown man. The children buy freely. One can notice expressions coming from the lips of Moslems, which are consciously or unconsciously taken from the Bible. They also ask the meanings of certain expressions in the New Testament. Of course, they prefer not to be seen buying a book of Scripture from a Christian. We are optimistic enough, however, to think that slowly in this way the truth will sink in."

ASIA

The Society has two Agencies on the continent of Asia—those in China and Siam—and Agencies on the islands of Japan and the Philippines. It has correspondents also in India.



FROM India no report has been received from the Methodist Episcopal Church Mission to which help was sent.

The Rev. W. H. Farrar, of the American Arcot Mission of the Reformed Church in America, reports a distribution of 3,306 volumes of Scripture, and writes:

I have the pleasure of thanking you again for your kindness, and assure you that we shall do all we can to use your gift in the way it is intended by you; viz., to extend the circulation, in our area, of the Scriptures. * * * This has been a very noticeable year for cholera. For four months now it has been prevalent in this area, and has taken away many lives. In home papers I read of it as one of the diseases that has been conquered; but if so, it is a most active prisoner. It seems worse this year than for a long time.

The Rev. E. E. White, of the American Madura Mission of the Congregational Churches, reports a distribution of 1,697 volumes with the aid received, and writes:

It is a wonderful thing to think of all these Bibles, Testaments, and Gospel portions going out all over our mission area with their message of salvation from sin and death. From my part of the field I can report a continuance of the same open-hearted interest in, and willingness to hear, the Gospel story on the part of non-Christians—particularly Hindus; for we have not touched the comparatively small section of Moslems as yet.

Many weeks ago one of our best Indian ministers came into my office with a request for a whole Bible for a Hindu man of the Reddy caste in a nearby village. I gave it, paying myself for the book, because I was so pleased that the Hindu man had asked for a copy with evident desire. I forgot about it for some weeks. Then, the other day, I walked the pastor again. "Sir, do you remember giving me a Bible for the Reddy man?" "Yes." "Well, he came around to see me the other day and said, 'I haven't paid you yet for that Bible—here is a rupee for it.' (Almost the entire cost of the book.) The man evidently valued it enough to remember to pay for it, even though he was not pressed for payment at the time.

I was in another village some months ago, where two high-caste young men converts are being prepared for baptism. They want to be

baptized soon, at a time when they can make the greatest impression for Christ upon their fellow-caste people. I left a couple of New Testaments with them which they seemed glad to get. We expect to have the young men baptized this Easter.

The town of Aruppukottai, in which I live, has nearly 35,000 people in it, of many caste communities. But two castes make up nearly 15,000 of the population, I am told. Each has a library with some daily papers and a few books. I have been making contacts with these men in a purely social, informal way, and in each library I have left a Bible. One day, in a kind of round-the-circle fashion, I gave them a regular sermon on Christ, and they gave me very good attention. The next day a visiting young man from the society came and had a long earnest talk. When he left, he said that if he decided to become baptized, he wanted me to baptize him. I felt both happy and humble to have him say it. I hope the Bibles will be read by the members of the various societies, but I cannot say as yet how much they are read.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

This Agency was established in 1899. It covers work throughout the whole archipelago, which embraces about three thousand islands, with a total area of 127,000 square miles and a population of 9,000,000. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. G. Bruce Cameron, Box 755, Manila, P. I. The circulation for the year 1928 was 9,937 Bibles, 15,130 Testaments, and 101,550 portions, making a total of 126,617 volumes. The total circulation since the establishment of the Agency is now 2,616,757 volumes. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 10 colporteurs, 12 correspondents, and 225 volunteers.



THE days of venturesome heroism in spreading the gospel among the islands of the Pacific have not ended. Think of venturing with an 18-foot sailboat out into typhoon infested seas. And yet, that being the only way to get the Word of God to people and towns on the scattered islands, it was bravely taken by the Bible Society colporteur. No wonder the Secretary pleads for a 30-foot boat with an engine strong enough to escape the typhoons when they spring up on those waters. Nor has the challenge for heroism and devotion met response only from the field force of the Agency. The Secretary reports some embarrassment from the genuine zeal which has arisen in his office force to share in this trying colporteur work. A very efficient bookkeeper, a first-class proofreader, and a truck driver, have applied for it. And, once again, devotion and heroism is found in still another phase of the work. High tribute is paid to one of the translator-revisers,—Mrs. A. J. Hall on the Samareño New Testament,—who was so intent on having the work completed in order that the people might have the Book that, when on her bed too weak to sit up, she insisted that the revision proof be read aloud, so that she might check it carefully against any slip or error. With such devotion by colporteurs, office force, and translators, the work goes on apace.

The records of the Philippines Agency of the American Bible Society for the year 1928 show a circulation in all parts of the islands, of 9,937 Bibles, 15,130 Testaments, and 101,550 portions—a total of 126,617 volumes.



Of these, one third was in English Scriptures and about one-tenth in Spanish and other languages. The remainder in the dialects is distributed as follows:

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tagalog	2,222	2,663	21,264	26,049
Cebuan	1,087	1,661	11,792	14,540
Bicol	946	1,798	8,535	11,279
Ilocano	2,459	2,992	13,445	18,896
Pampangan	539	265	4,824	5,628
Pangasinan	338	436	3,637	4,411
Panayan	510	896	2,773	4,179
Samareño .....	.....	.....	3,000	3,000
Grand total	8,101	10,711	69,170	87,982

The Tagalog circulation was largely effected by direct colportage, and most of that was done through the medium of our colportage truck. This truck was managed for part of the time by one of the Chinese refugee missionaries of a gospel mission, who worked without salary. The balance of the time the truck was managed by our native men with very good success. The colportage truck has operated in the provinces of Pangasinan, Nueva Ecija, Tarlac (Methodist), and Laguna and Batangas (Presbyterian). The last-named province was covered very thoroughly along the main highway, although an absolute house-to-house canvass was not made, except in the towns.

Systematic Colporteurism

Two colporteurs have been covering in a very thorough and systematic manner, on foot and by boat, the southern part of Tayabas along the highway and railroad, and by boat on the Pacific side as far as Infanta. I mention Infanta, because it is a point far up on the coast and quite isolated. These two men have done, on this trip, a great deal of what we might term isolation work. They were able to reach many towns that have not been reached by colporteurs for several years. Later in the year, these two men covered the more densely populated sections of Nueva Ecija and Cavite.

We have colporteurs working under missionaries in various stations in the south, and in one or two stations in the north. The reason why there are more colporteurs working under missionaries in the south, is because these fields are too far away for us to direct, and we are, therefore, depending upon the help that the missionaries can give us. We seriously need an Agency in the south, and possibly also in the southwest, in order that we might be able to direct our own colporteurs more effectively than the missionaries are able to do it, with the many other tasks that they have to perform.

Our Bible Boat

Our Bible boat, under the management of Mr. Ghent, left Iligan for Cagayan, Mindanao, and towns east of there, on October 31. Mr. Ghent succeeded in reaching Butuan, a point about 150 kilometers east of Cagayan on the north coast. It so happened that this

year has proven to be the worst year for typhoons in the south, as is evidenced by the newspapers' reports of the havoc wrought in Samar and other southern provinces. Mr. Ghent was unfortunate enough to be caught in the midst of this typhoon weather, although not actually in the typhoons themselves. It is not once in ten years that we would experience such weather in our southern work at that time of the year. The trip was fraught with difficulties from the beginning, and the boat was narrowly saved from disaster a number of times. However, Mr. Ghent proved his seamanship and was able to land the boat safely back at Cagayan. The territory reached by the boat has not been visited by a colporteur or a missionary in a number of years. In fact, there is perhaps no other way to reach these intermediate towns, than by using a boat of our own. It has long been the dream of Mr. Ghent to reach these very towns. It is only unfortunate that the weather was so stormy at the time he attempted it. However, he will make the trip again later on, at a more favorable season when the rains will not interfere so much with work among the people.

The boat that we are using is small and inadequate, but it is the best we could afford. We are sorely in need of at least a thirty-foot boat, with a strong enough engine to enable the occupants to run away from the storms. Mr. Ghent is a brave man, or he would never venture out in the eighteen-foot sailboat which we have provided. We appeal strongly to the readers of this report, in the hope that some might be moved to make a contribution to assist us in this immediate need. Not only do we ask this as a safeguard for the lives of the colporteurs, but also that they might be able to do the work more effectively. We would make this suggestion to any one interested in helping us meet this need, that at the same time a fund be provided whereby the boat can be accompanied by a mechanic who can look after the engine. One of the problems of using a larger boat is that the man in charge of the boat and the selling campaign is usually the man who has to look after the engine, and often much valuable time is taken up in necessary repairs and in looking after the engine itself. It is often necessary for the men to travel at night on account of the tides, and if there were a man on the boat who would do the running, the man in charge could rest during the trip. We feel that this is a very important part of the boat upkeep, if such a boat should be supplied.

In addition to Mr. Ghent's work with the boat, he has done a great deal of land travel by using the public trucks. During the year Mr. Ghent has done work in the provinces of Pampanga, La Union, and Ilocos Norte, as well as in the city of Baguio in the north; and in the south considerable time was spent in Cotobato.

The Appeal of the Work

In connection with colportage work, we would make mention of the fact that our policy of colportage is undergoing a change with a

view to securing more efficient and more consecrated colporteurs. Since determining on securing a higher grade of colporteur, we have laid the burden on the Lord and have been receiving almost direct answers to our prayers. During the last year there have come to us several consecrated men, filled with a genuine zeal for the distribution of the Word of God. One of these men seems especially fitted and ready for outpost work. Also, we are happy to state that this has taken hold of our office, to the point where we shall probably have to reorganize; for three of our men have expressed a keen desire, based on religious fervor, to go out in the field and do house-to-house work. One of these men is our very efficient bookkeeper, the other is a first-class proofreader, and the third is our truck driver.

It will be of interest to note that a splendid salesman from Manila has offered himself as colporteur to work in the southwest provinces. This man has long been a local preacher and a zealous Christian worker. He has dedicated himself to this work. He is Ilongo, or Panayan—which is the dialect spoken in the southwest. This man has covered Negros Occidental during the last half of the year, and in the first part of this coming year will cover the provinces of Antique, Iloilo, and Capiz. Our Baptist brethren will be glad to note that this is all territory allocated to the Baptist Mission.

Publishing Activities

Since last October we have succeeded in finishing the Bicol Pocket New Testament plates, although as yet we have not finished printing the edition. This pocket Testament, at the request of the Bicol field, is of larger type and, therefore, not strictly of pocket size, being rather a medium-sized Testament. The edition will be ready for circulation about February or March of next year.

The Tagalog New Testament revision has been going on now for several years, being a tedious job. However, the committee finally finished the work of the New Testament in December of this year. Next year, we are planning on going forward with the revision of the Old Testament, doing the Pentateuch and the Psalms during the year 1929, the historical books during 1930, etc.; each year publishing as much as has been revised, with references, and the balance as it is.

The Agency is grateful to the Presbyterian Mission for the service Mrs. Hall has rendered in translating the Samareño New Testament. We trust that Mrs. Hall may be permitted to go on with the Old Testament, fully expecting that the committee in New York will approve of this work being done.

Zealous Devotion Recorded and Appreciated

We wish to pause in the midst of this report, to attempt to express something of our appreciation for the outstanding service that Mrs. Hall has rendered in revising the Gospels and Acts and in translating the balance of the New Testament in Samareño. Not for many years

has this field witnessed such a sacrifice of health in the cause of gospel propagation as that undergone by this servant of the Lord. The Presbyterian Mission will appreciate my recalling to their minds the fact, that the latter part of the work of going carefully over the translation was done on a sick bed. When Mrs. Hall was too weak to sit up, she had her girls read over the work to her, so she could be absolutely sure she had checked up every little point in her work. Of course, she was assisted through the revising and translating; but the burden of it all came on her own shoulders.

Appreciation is given, also, to Pastor Bocar, the young man who gave so much of his time to helping in this work, and who in the midst of the work passed on to the Great Beyond. He has helped to build a monument that will endure for many years.

The first copies of the Samareño New Testament were distributed to members of the Presbyterian Mission in session in October. We are happy to have been able to offer them for circulation. We shall put forth our best efforts to assist in pushing the Testaments and Gospels out among the people who so need them. We expect to send Mr. Ghent with his boat to the Samar field in the very near future.

Other editions and plates pending are, the Tagalog Pocket New Testament, the Ilocano Pocket Testament, and the Panayan Pocket Testament. The Ilocano Pocket Testament is being set up; the Panayan plates are finished and will be printed early next year. The Tagalog Pocket Testament will be set up as soon as the large-size Tagalog is off the linotype.

We wish to make mention, also, of the fact that the revised Sulu Luke of the Moro region is in process of being gone over for spelling, etc., preparatory to a transcription into the script. As soon as this is accomplished, we will have it set up and printed. The present edition of the Sulu Luke, which was gotten out by the British and Foreign Bible Society in 1920, is exhausted, and no plates had been made for a reprint.

Donation Service

The Society has consistently urged the mission hospitals to make donations to their patients of portions and Testaments, and offers to provide the Scriptures for this work. Prisons and leper colonies, as far as possible, are also objects of donations in our policy, and calls to meet this need are welcomed. During the past year workers have secured from our shelves hundreds of Testaments and many Bibles for their Sunday-school classes in Bilibid Penitentiary. Thousands of portions have been distributed by workers from the Christian Mission in the General Hospital and by gospel workers in Santol. We trust other mediums for circulation in the city of Manila and in other cities may be found as far as our funds will permit us to supply them. It is hoped that appeals will be made to the churches in the islands for funds with which to extend this work of benevolence.

SIAM AGENCY

The Siam Agency was established in 1890. The people are sometimes called Tai, which means the free people. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. Robert Irwin, New Road, near British Legation, Bangkok, Siam. The circulation for the year 1928 was 243 Bibles, 766 Testaments, and 111,381 portions, making a total of 112,390 volumes. The total circulation since the establishment of the Agency is now 3,010,083 volumes. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 20 colporteurs, 1 correspondent, and 8 volunteers.



REPORT which begins with the claim that "Bible work is the most interesting business in the world," finds support when it follows with such astounding stories as it contains. Anyone looking for spiritual refreshment can obtain it by turning to Dr. Hugh Taylor's story of why he baptized Paw Sen Phome Tape and Nai Boon Ma. What pastor at home would not be thrilled by such an experience? The act and prayer of simple faith which issued in the cure of three sick buffaloes is another stimulant to thought. And what pastor would not welcome as a church member a man who walks every Sunday to a church service three miles from his home? The century of missions in Siam celebrated last year has not been fruitless. May the harvest ripen faster!

Bible work is the most interesting business in the world. Why? Because it handles the only product that everybody needs and must have to be satisfied. There are a very few universal needs. We all must eat and wear clothes of some kind, and we must have a shelter; but the supply of all these is in endless variety and dictated by custom, climate, and taste. But there is only one Bible. It has the secret of the fullest life. "The words I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." The gospel unlocks the human spirit and gives it the freedom of all worlds through all time. It unites men to God and makes them children in God's universal family. It breaks in pieces the hardest heart and glorifies it with the character of God. It sells the truth all are seeking, and scatters its treasures before our astonished eyes. "Oh! every one that thirsteth, come to the waters; and he that hath no money, come ye, buy and eat; yea, come buy wine and milk without money and without price." It draws nations and churches together into an all-absorbing interrelation and interchurch, in which each still conserves all its own historic values. All persons, and na-



SIAM

View of the Gulf of Thailand
Showing Agency of the
AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

0 100 200 300 400 500 Miles

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tions and churches too, are chosen for a special service; but the Bible missionaries are unusually honored.

The Centennial of Mission Work in Siam

The great event of the year in Siam was the three-day celebration, in December, of the first centennial of missionary work here, in which all the Protestant missions joined. The King, with the Queen, graciously granted the use of the beautiful Saranromya Park, and opened the proceedings in an address of welcome and appreciation of the work of the missions. They also reviewed the exhibits, which were extensive and of a high order. This Agency borrowed the Pacific Agency's idea of a lighthouse and displayed on four of its sides Scriptures in various languages and scripts, and on the other two sides photographs of the peoples, customs, workers, and lines of work in the Agency. We presented his Majesty with a Siamese Bible and distributed three thousand each of a souvenir edition of John and Luke in Siamese, over fifteen thousand of other Scriptures, and a wagonload of leaflets in Siamese, Chinese, and English. Our thirty-eight years of service in Siam is reviewed in the historical sketch, edited by Dr. G. B. McFarland.

The Year's Work

The Agency Secretary and wife were absent on furlough a large part of the year. We have to thank Dr. J. A. Eakin, Mr. Eliopoulos, and the office force for caring for the field. A number of supervisors were also absent. The colporteur force fell to twenty men, some of them on duty for a very short time. The distribution is, therefore, very much lower than usual—112,390 books against over a hundred and sixty thousand last year. Of this amount 243 were Bibles, 766 Testaments, and 111,381 were portions in twenty-two languages and dialects. At the same time, assurances have come from various parts of the field that greater care than usual has been exercised in placing the Scriptures. Several supervisors accompanied their colporteurs on tours, and many of the books passed from their own hands into the hands of the people. Dr. McKean, Mr. Landon, and Mr. Seigle have done intensive rather than extensive work. Mr. Hartzell reports that his men "gave Scriptures only to those whom they thought would read them. They said they could have distributed many more, but feared they would be torn up or thrown away." Early in the year, three men, under Mr. Bachtell, started for a season's distribution in northern French Laos; but famine conditions deflected them to Muang Yawng, in the Shan States, which has been well covered every year. They were gone six weeks and put out something over four thousand portions of Yuan portions. The Rev. K. P. Landon, of Sritamarat, secured many signed promises to read the Gospels and Acts in order, and to report and receive a New Testament gratis as reward. He has already given out twenty New Testaments. The method is an ex-

cellent one both for immediate and future results. We furnish all these Scriptures free, but are at no expense for distribution.

The Rev. A. G. Seigle, of Bangkok, sends this cheering statement:

"In what writings of men can one find words equal to these of John 3:16, 'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life'? Or, take these words of 2 Cor. 8:9, 'For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich'? To-day we hold this storehouse of riches—the Bible—within our hands, and it is our privilege to give this rich gift to poverty-stricken humanity.

"There are but few gifts that one can give, that, with the giving, one is made richer; but this is true in the giving of the Word of God to those who are bound by ignorance and superstition and who walk in darkness and know not whither they go. This is the wealth of the Rev. Robert Irwin, representative of the American Bible Society in Siam. It has been my joy, during the past nine years, to share in some of these riches by assisting Mr. Irwin in the distribution of the Scriptures to the hundreds of thousands in and about the great city of Bangkok.

Chinese Churches Respond

"Formerly our method of distribution was by paid colporteurs, who would sell or give away the Scripture portions throughout the city and province of Bangkok as they were able. Six months ago, this responsibility was laid on the Chinese churches, and it is wonderful with what spirit they entered into the new task. A certain number of Scripture portions, from five to several hundred, was given to each Christian, to be distributed within his or her own district. The more hot-hearted ones went at the work with a will and soon returned for a fresh supply. Others, who have small businesses and could not give any time during week days, spent the Lord's Day in going about their district with the Word. Entering a small Christian teashop, I was surprised and glad to see Scripture portions on the tables where those who came to quench their thirst might also drink of the Water of Life. For several weeks I was personally supervising a group of five, who went from house to house, giving only to those who promised to read the Word; and we distributed on an average of one hundred and seventy-five each a day, and with each book went a personal message—a little exposition of the Book. Who can estimate the richness of the returns to the kingdom of God through the more than twelve thousand portions distributed by these Chinese Christians during the past six months? Who can estimate the increased riches in their own lives through the giving of the Word to others and His giving himself to them? Freely we have received, and freely we give—"Give, and it shall be given unto you." This is the Master's way of becoming millionaires. Our prayer for the year 1929 is this, "Lord, make us rich in thy Word as this year we give thy Word to others."

This little word comes from Mr. Goodenberger in far-off Chieng-rung, China: "Our evangelists are distributing Scriptures practically every day. They carry a supply for long-distance touring, and we are certainly encouraged to believe that some of the seed is being sown on good ground."

Dr. Hugh Taylor, accompanied by Mrs. Taylor, made their annual tour to Luang Prabang, in French Laos, where our colporteur Tammawong and family are at work, and on his return sent us the following story:

Why Tape and Ma Were Baptized

"Have you ever been taken by surprise when you really should not have been? Well, ten days ago I was. I was surprised into baptizing Paw Sen Phome Tape and Nai Boon Ma, one of them five days from his home and the other three days away from his. I did it against all rules I have been following in such cases in the past. Indeed, I have a man with me here who has been asking for baptism for five weeks, and I have been putting him off until he can make his public confession of faith at his own home, where he is known. Do you wish the story?

"We waded out of the jungle, wet and weary, into Na Khem. It was a weepy Sunday next day, but those who could not get into the temple to see and hear the illustrated gospel story, stood out in the rain and looked and listened. Monday, I noted a stranger in the lead of our caravan. Tuesday, that man and another with him was noted in the audience. Wednesday, they turned up again at Tow Poon. Thursday, they were present at Na Sow, and a third man with them. We had turned aside from the main road and taken a trail up the hills. Friday, we arrived at Hooi Lune, the object of our sidestep. A number of this village had confessed their faith and requested admission to the church. Saturday was preparation day, and my surprise was that the three strangers were chief among the instructors. Kru Tammawong and Elder Boon Tah had done their part well throughout the year, and Elder Nan Saan and Nai In Seng, who had been sent ahead of us to teach the new converts, had done their part; but there still seemed to be some doubts that needed clearing up before all were ready to take the final stand, and these three men seemed to understand the difficulties and how to get at them better than our trained workers. I should not have been surprised when two of those three men came with the forty of that village who presented themselves for baptism; but I was. I was also surprised that the third, and the most zealous of the three, did not come with them. I learned that he was waiting for me to take a two-day trip over the mountains from Wieng Sa, to receive him and his family and possibly others of his home town all together. Possibly, you can remember that I wrote seven years ago that, at one village, the people fairly wept that I had not saved a single copy of the Scriptures for them to study. Well, one of my carriers had hidden a copy among his stuff, and he could

not stand their tears; so he got it out and gave it to them. From that copy the man got his knowledge and zeal, and told his friends of his newly found treasure; and they, in turn, secured copies from us two years ago, when we passed through their villages. The Na Khem man knew that the Muang Tong man was in his neighborhood when we turned up there; and he hunted him up, and together they found the third and followed us. How many more may there be, like these, scattered all through this land, who received copies from that first fourteen loads of Scriptures distributed seven years ago on that Luang Prabang-Nong Kai trip?"

"Pray Much, Dress Prettily and Speak Sweetly"

Pitsanuloke Station (A. P. M.) reported in 1927, that "an unusually large number of tracts and Scriptures were sold or distributed. The exact number is not known, but it was several thousands. When asked if he could give a reason for the unusual sale of books, the evangelist said there were three: Pray much, dress prettily, and speak sweetly.

"Indifference, prejudice, and rebuff are the attitudes usually met, and faithfulness with a generous admixture of lassitude or hypocrisy on the part of adherents call for tact and faith on the evangelist's part. No book agent or other common salesman faces stronger prejudice or more absolute indifference or more determined opposition in the presentation of his line, than does the Christian evangelist who faces the adherents of modern Buddhism in Siam. With Paul, he must endure hardship as a good soldier, and, with Moses, endure as seeing Him who is invisible. Otherwise, three things occur: discouragement, resignation, and a vacancy on the evangelistic force."

The Rev. K. P. Landon writes, "Your Society cannot work well without the missionary, and we cannot work well without you. I am glad we can do business together so well. I hope we may continue to help each other.

"It is my desire to sow down the field in the south with the written Word of God, and I want to see to it personally; for then I know the job is thoroughly done. My plan has been to give one book to each home, and so far it has worked out that way. When I say I have given out 5,000 portions of Scripture, that means 5,000 homes reached and no book given without explanation of salvation.

"I find I am about out of Siamese New Testaments; so will you send me twenty more of them. I have the system of giving a New Testament to anyone who will read the four Gospels and Acts and can satisfy me that he has a working knowledge of what he has read. I am surprised how many who have never even heard of Christ have applied themselves and quickly gained a knowledge of him. This is worth-while work, as you can plainly see, and the price is well worth the giving. I do not ask any money to help in the distribution."

Mr. Case, acting for Mr. Hanna of Lampang, reports, "On the

local colporteur's trip up the Maa Tui Valley, he did not bring back an enthusiastic report. He said people were not very receptive. But a two weeks' tour along another valley found good interest, and he had to send the carrier back for more Scriptures, all of which were distributed. Several persons are thinking deeply and may become Christians—one a Nai Kwen."

Strange Use of the Bible

Boon Ruang tells the following story: Mr. Kam heard through a colporteur and from reading, that Jesus was a doctor. He had five sick buffaloes, one dead already, and he determined to seek aid of this doctor. He took a bucket of water and prayed, "If You are able, I will pour this water over the sick buffaloes and cure them." He had no sooner thrown the water over them, than the buffaloes rose and began to eat. He became a Christian and met all objections and contentions in a cheerful manner. Later, he met an evangelist and came to Bangkok and was baptized. Now, though he lives three hours distant from the nearest church, he walks in to worship every Sunday.

Publication

We have printed during the year twenty-two books of the Siamese Bible and two Gospels in Tai Lu for the Yunnan work—a total of 55,930 volumes of 3,597,320 pages.

There has been no new translation during the year. Revision of the Siamese New Testament and handwriting of the Lu New Testament go steadily, though slowly, on. Revised I Corinthians is on the press.

Gifts

Thirteen churches and ten individuals contributed to our funds a total of Ts. 632.15—Ts. 1.75 was the lowest and Ts. 100 the highest. Several new churches are on the roll, and we miss the names of some regular contributors. All of them have our hearty thanks and blessing.

Sixteen daily presses have furnished our reading room with their publications in Siamese, Chinese, Annamese, and English throughout the year. Eleven missions and government institutions have regularly sent us theirs, and nine individuals have provided, more or less regularly, thirty-one magazines or other publications. The reading room is free to the public and is open all day and as late in the night as needed, Sundays as well. Readers average not less than two hundred a day, and they are of many nationalities. Opinion has been expressed that there is no better form of missionary work in the city of Bangkok, though there is no religious propaganda. We thank those who have contributed to the welfare of these readers.

Our hearty thanks are also due Khun Thanakit Wicharn for our supply of office inks for the whole year; and to our Home Office, through Dr. North, for an additional appropriation of \$2,000 to apply

to our overdrawn plates account, and \$75 for the Centenary expenses.

It is pleasant to record an expression of appreciation of the Bangkok Station of the American Presbyterian Mission "for the cooperation of the Society in the evangelistic work of the station."

Circulation by Languages, 1928

<i>Language (Dialect)</i>	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Total</i>
Siamese	12	538	67,845	68,395
Easy Wenli	102	62	20,885	21,049
Sindi	...	...	2	2
Telugu	...	...	2	2
Tamil	...	...	4	4
Hindi	...	...	9	9
English	124	148	145	417
Russian	1	2	...	3
Cantonese	1	8	1,275	1,284
Tai Yuan	...	...	15,906	15,906
Siamo-Lao	...	...	5	5
Mandarin	...	1	26	27
Tai Lu	...	...	4,960	4,960
Tai Lao	...	...	10	10
Malayalam	...	...	22	22
Annamese	1	...	3	4
Cantonese, Roman	1	...	...	1
Latin (Vulgate)	1	...	...	1
French	...	5	...	5
German	...	2	1	3
Hakka	...	...	280	280
Burmese	...	...	1	1
Total.....	243	766	111,381	112,390

Publications in 1928

<i>Dialect</i>	<i>Books</i>	<i>Volumes</i>	<i>Pages</i>
Siamese	22	45,930	3,377,320
Tai Lu	2	10,000	220,000
Total publications.....	24	55,930	3,597,320

Additions to Stock 1928

<i>DIRECT ADDITIONS:</i>	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Total</i>
Manufactured	...	...	55,930	55,930
From Home Office	3	84	.....	87
Purchased	6	134	73,250	73,390
Losses recovered	81	120	20,035	20,236
Total direct additions.....	90	338	149,215	149,643
<i>INDIRECT ADDITIONS:</i>				
From bindery	5	323	6,295	6,623
Total additions	95	661	155,510	156,266

Issues from Stock 1928

<i>DIRECT ISSUES:</i>	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Total</i>
Bangkok depository	66	208	90,221	90,495
Chiangmai depository	...	...	4,403	4,403
Total	66	208	94,624	94,898
<i>INDIRECT ISSUES:</i>				
To bindery	...	...	10,923	10,923
Total issues	66	208	105,547	105,821

CHINA AGENCY

The China Agency was established in 1876. Its headquarters are in Shanghai. There are four non-Chinese sub-Agency Secretaries, located at Canton, Chengtu, Hankow, and Peiping. They superintend the work of distribution of Scriptures in their respective fields. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. G. Carleton Lacy, D.D., 23 Yuen Ming Yuen Road, Shanghai, China.

The circulation for the year 1928 was 7,890 Bibles, 155,953 Testaments, and 4,510,280 portions, making a total of 4,674,123 volumes. It is chiefly in the Mandarin, Wenli (Classical), and Easy Wenli languages; but Scriptures are also circulated in colloquial dialects spoken by millions of people. The principal of these into which the whole Bible has been translated and published under our Society are the Canton, Fuchau, Hinghwa, Suchau, and Shanghai. The total circulation since the establishment of the Agency is now 53,206,249. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 21 colporteurs, 500 correspondents, and 537 volunteers.



An almost incredible fact emerges from the record of Scripture distribution during 1928 in China. That our Agency reports a circulation of 4,674,123 volumes of Scripture in one year is of itself a marvelous fact. Add to this the circulation reported by the British and Scotch Societies, and the total rises to 11,408,469 volumes of Scripture circulated in China alone. This tremendous total is over two and three quarter millions of volumes more than the circulation of the year before. There can be but one basic explanation of these great figures. In China the Word of God is wanted; the Word of God is being read. Another great fact is the increasing activity of individual Chinese Christians and of organized churches in bringing the Bible to the people. The report deals not alone in big statistics. Individual instances of the influence of the reading of the Scriptures carry on this stimulating record as in past years. It is both gratifying and startling to read that all that was done did not meet all the demand. More volumes would have been circulated had they been available.

A Year of Contrasts

The din of clashing arms and booming guns has died away; the air that was thick not only with the smoke of war, but with the smoke screens of propaganda, has cleared, and we find ourselves in a better Chinese world at the end of 1928 than at the beginning.



Showing Agency of the
AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

SCALE OF MILES
0 100 200 300 400 500
0 100 200 300 400 500
KILOMETERS

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Whereas then the drive against the North on the part of the Nanking forces had not taken place, we see now a completed task,—the North having been induced to hoist the National flag,—and included in this, at the very end of the year, is the Manchurian Dependency, General Chang Hsueh-liang ('The Young General'), as head of the Manchurian Government, having accepted a seat on the Central Board.

At the outset of the year we saw the Foreign Powers standing aloof, watching the struggle of the Nationalist Party to make itself the National Government; at the close we see twelve of these Powers, including the United States, at one with the new government in acknowledgment of its position and in the signing of new commercial treaties with it.

Whereas at the beginning of the year we found the country, as regards missionary work, very much upset, with very few missionaries able, or indeed present, to do anything—most of them having been forced to leave their fields; at the close we see the stations reoccupied, missionaries traveling about with some freedom, and mission property for the most part restored.

There is still the Japanese recognition to be obtained, and in this connection there is a new note sounded in the New Year's address of the President of the Council, General Chiang Kai-shek, in which the attention of the nation is directed to the achievements of the Japanese people, and an exhortation to follow the Japanese lead in building up an independent and strong empire.

While recognizing the great advance that has been made by the government under very trying conditions, we see much yet to be accomplished. Lawlessness is still prevalent; illegal taxation is practised on a wide scale; and famine stalks abroad in many of the North Provinces, that of Kansu being described by correspondents as "doomed." Disruptive forces are also at work in many directions. At the same time one notes with satisfaction, that the military leaders of practically the whole of China are at the present moment met together to consider disarmament and how to plan for a military force sufficient for the country's needs, that will operate under the Central Government. It is certainly a big step forward to be able to draw together such a band of military leaders as we see at present assembled.

Contribution of the American Bible Society

The question that will naturally arise is: What contribution did the American Bible Society make throughout the agitated year to assist the people of this land in their sufferings consequent on the evil concomitants of war?

The answer is given in the reports from our sub-Agency Secretaries, where we get a fairly accurate idea of the conditions in which the work has been done, the extent of that work, and some of the good results flowing from it.

Before allowing the Secretaries to tell their stories, we must first

put down a few items about the headquarters and the consolidated results of the year's working.

The Staff

The Agency Secretary, Dr. Carleton Lacy, left on furlough at the end of March, and is still off the field at the time of writing. Though away from China, he is close to the Home Office, and has been able to interpret for the officers there the China situation as it developed through the year.

The Rev. T. H. Lin, the Field Secretary connected with the Shanghai office, went to the United States at the same time as Dr. Lacy. He was a delegate to the Methodist Conference which met at Kansas City during the month of May. He returned to Shanghai in September and soon started in on his duties.

At the end of May, Miss Bessie Barchet, our office secretary, resigned to return to the United States. She was replaced by Miss M. V. McNeely, who has had considerable experience in the business side of missionary work.

In the spring the Rev. G. Hirst returned to his field in Central China, and the Rev. T. Torrance to his in West China. The return of these workers greatly strengthened our work in many important directions.

The field work was also advanced by the appointment as Field Secretaries of the Rev. Frank K. Jowe on July 1, 1928, to the North China sub-Agency, and Mr. C. A. Rao on December 1, 1928, to Central China. These men entered the work too late to make themselves felt for 1928; but they are likely to be heard of from now on.

The Bible House in Peiping (Peking)

Though coming under the report of the North China sub-Agency, the erection of the new Bible House in Peiping deserves special mention here.

Without doubt, the dedicating of the finished building on October 11, 1928, proved our most spectacular event. The newspapers gave plenty of space to it, including pictures. A number of prominent leaders attended, and the Home Office was represented by Mr. R. C. Tillingham, of New York City, who read an appropriate message. The Rev. E. A. Hoose, our Secretary for North China, describes the opening in his report of the work under his care.

The Capital Removed

Thinking of Peiping and the Bible House brings to mind the fact that the capital is now at Nanking, and even the name has been changed from Peking (Northern Capital) to Peiping (Northern Peace). This has had a tremendous effect on business there, leading to the closing of numerous places and the removing to other parts of the Republic of many thousands of the population.

It is claimed that Peiping will continue as an educational center, and, if this is realized, we, as a Bible Society having a new building there, will rejoice. Anyhow, there is a vast field up there in which to carry on our work.

The Circulation

Turning now to the circulation, we have two pleasant surprises: Bibles are on the upward move again after a stagnant period, and great advances are made in the placing of portions. There is a falling off in Testaments due principally to the closing down of the Million Testaments for China Campaign.

Bibles had dropped in 1927 to 5,348, owing to the troubles; they have recovered to 7,890, and we look for a steady improvement, now that conditions are better.

A Great Year for Portions

The highest previous record for the circulation of portions was in 1926, when a total of 3,753,921 was reported; 1928 shows 4,510,239, an increase of 756,318.

Looking at the circulation of Bibles, Testaments, and portions, we find that the magnificent total of 4,674,123 was reached, as against 3,109,692 for 1927, and 3,821,393 for 1926—the highest point reached in the history of the work up to that time. The year 1928 stands out, therefore, as a new record in circulation for this Society in China.

The demand throughout the year was phenomenal and widespread. Voluntary workers found it easy to sell the books. Doubtless, the distracted state of the minds of the people must have caused them to turn to the Scriptures in the hope of obtaining light and help.

The success of the work was made possible by the voluntary help available. Pastors and other church leaders were thankful to have many of their members engage in the good work. Poverty on the part of many church members, doubtless, led them to take up the work; but there was, also, those who sold the books and preached the gospel for love of the work.

The detailed statistical report is given at the end, following the narratives of the sub-Agency Secretaries.

Manufactures

To keep up with the stream of requests for portions, the printing presses were kept busy, and all available funds were directed to this channel. Included in the year's report is the high total of 5,197,641 volumes. For 1927 it was 2,760,561 (a poor year on account of the disturbed conditions of the country and, consequently, a smaller demand); while in 1926 it was getting well on to the four-million mark—being 3,749,331. By the end of the year most of our portions had gone out. Naturally, not all had reached their destination in time to take any part in the circulation figures.

The South China Bible Society

This Society continues to make progress, and full reference to it is given in the report of our own work in South China. The reading of the Rev. H. O. T. Burkwall's statement will be interesting to all who have followed the movement thus far.

EAST CHINA SUBAGENCY

Beginning on our "round of the clock," we start off with the East China sub-Agency.

This sub-Agency has been in the making, so to speak, for a few years past; but it has taken on a more definite form with the coming to our help, of Mr. Timothy Wong, concerning whose work readers of the *Bible Society Record* will have made acquaintance already. Mr. Wong works in this sub-Agency as supervisor of sales, and he has done his work to some purpose.

Mr. Wong makes a brief report in which he says:

"The work of the East China sub-Agency is going forward hopefully, with the blessings of God. During this year we have been to some leading cities in different provinces, such as Shanghai, Suchau, Changchow, in Kiangsu; Hangchow, Ningpo, in Chekiang; also several places in Anhwei Province.

"In each place where some conference was being held, we had many opportunities of speaking directly about the Bible. We explained some of the advantages of reading the Bible, with the result that after each talk many copies were sold. We included as a special aim in our talks encouragement to hold family worship. Sometimes we went to visit the pastors in different churches. We made special arrangements with a number of different churches to have the portions sold through them. God is blessing the work of distributing his Word."

Mr. Wong disposed of 415 Bibles, 100 New Testaments, and 535.-757 portions—a total of 536,272 copies. This result was reached by the assistance of over 80 voluntary workers.

Hinghwa Depository

Dropping down South, we pass our depository at Hinghwa, in Fukien Province.

This depository is under missionary supervision. Unsettled conditions are responsible for the small number of sales. The Rev. F. Stanley Carson reports a circulation of 52 Bibles and 65 portions, a total of 117 volumes.

SOUTH CHINA SUBAGENCY

This brings us, in our circuit, to the important sub-Agency at Canton.

The Rev. H. O. T. Burkwall, of the British and Foreign Bible Society, who is in charge of our work in South China, reports:

"The past year has been a year of groping for a foothold, a year of quest for a way out of the depression caused by the Communists at the close of 1927. Financial losses have told heavily on all lines of trade and business. The depreciation of the government's paper currency, excessive taxation, new surtaxes put upon imports, the continued pressure of the *likin* taxes, new taxes on property to include a building tax, and the general uncertainty as to a possible limit to the list of taxes—have kept trade at a low mark. Even the speedy recovery of the paper currency (it was as low as 30 cents to the dollar, but rose to par before the end of the year) did not stabilize confidence in the government in business circles in the city.

"The country seems to have fared better. The Canton Rightest Government has continued in power after ejecting the Communist leaders in December, 1927. It has carried out campaigns to put down banditry and to make the waterways measurably safe for travel. Interior cities have exercised some measure of self-determination in local matters and have pushed roadbuilding. Numbers of centers now have new roads running out in all directions as spokes from the hub of a wheel. Unfortunately, there is not yet intercommunity spirit sufficient to link these clusters of roads together for true public service. Without efficient government action and cooperation, this cannot be done. There is wanting confidence in the government to inspire trust on the part of the influential and wealthy centers in the interior.

"Where government and people have got together on grounds of mutual understanding and service, the new roads' systems are linked up and are supplied with telephone lines, guaranteeing adequate protection of life and property.

"The country or province took great interest in the resumption of official relations between Canton and Hongkong. A great feeling of relief could be read in every face. It opened the way to market again for produce and for travel. The suppression of bandits on new lines added to popular support to these measures, making the suppression effectual.

Anxious Times

"The church has had some anxious times. There are questions of church property taxes; the holding of church property in mission names; the readjustments to the recent reorganization of many church bodies; the finding of her own place in the new conditions, especially among the laboring classes; and other like questions yet to be solved. Aggressive evangelistic efforts have been resumed. The people seem eager to hear what the church leaders have to say.

"Christian schools have reopened with full enrollment. The registration question is not pressed for the time being.

"There has been no pronounced revival of either Buddhism or Taoism in our field. Both of these lost heavily by the confiscation of property carried out by government action in 1924-1927. Confucianism was more loudly observed this year than for many years. Perhaps the

day being the same as the 'Double Ten National Holiday' had something to do with this.

"Colporteurs have moved about more freely. Missionary itineraries have been resumed. Much has been done to circulate the Gospels through regular church channels, using their paid workers. It is too early to expect much from distinctly voluntary workers.

"The circulation of a total of 95,951 volumes—including 990 Bibles, 1,416 Testaments, and 93,545 portions—as compared with less than 39,000 volumes in 1927, gauges well the situation or attitude of the people in South China. There were 18 voluntary workers.

"Two colporteurs have been employed, and their supervision has been carried on conjointly with the South China Bible Society with very satisfactory results. The colporteurs feel they have a more real share in the work. It is now more truly their work. The sales under this colportage—26,353 portions—include some 2,788 scattered sales. To these two colporteurs—Lo Kwok-po and Lai Po-kwong—23,565 portions are directly credited.

The South China Bible Society

"The South China Bible Society was formally organized on December 10, 1927. A tentative draft of a constitution based on the year's study and experience has been drawn up. Subcommittees have been at work on the study of colportage as it is and how to extend it; and on plans for providing funds for the society.

"A membership campaign enrolled more than 500 members in Canton City, including a juvenile membership of 150. After this encouraging effort, the campaign was extended into the province.

"By the membership fees the executive committee was able, during the first year, to contribute \$500 to the 1928 budget for the cooperative work carried on with the two parent Bible Societies.

"It held its first annual meeting on October 20, 1928. For 1929 the sum of \$1,000 was voted for the budget of the cooperative arrangement.

"The new society realizes the task before it is great. Their first responsibilities concern the building up of the South China Bible Society among the church people throughout South China. This can not be done in a year, or even two years. Until the need for the new society, and the recognition that it can fill that need, is widely realized by the Christian constituency in South China, there can be no firm foundation on which to build for the future.

"The executive committee have ruled that Bible Sunday offerings, beginning with 1928 Bible Sunday, shall be devoted to the worldwide service of the Bible Societies; while the extension of colportage in their field shall be met by membership fees. Thus they are building broadly and in a true spirit of cooperation with the parent societies.

"On Bible Sunday amounts varying from 20 cents to \$30 (Mex.) made up the total of \$422.80 contributed by churches, organizations,

and individuals for the general work of the Bible Societies operating in South China.

"We have only words of deep appreciation of the hearty support tendered us by the missionaries on our field. They are slowly returning to inland stations, and the whole work is assuming its usual life and busy activity."

CENTRAL CHINA SUBAGENCY

Leaving the South, our next stop is at Hankow, where the offices are and where the Rev. Godfrey Hirst successfully prosecutes the work.

His report shows a circulation of 1,921,357 volumes effected by over 200 voluntary workers. He says:

"Comparing March with November, there can only be a deep earnest thought of thanksgiving to God for what he has wrought in the condition of China, or rather this section of it. Then, there were but few missionaries in the interior, and the conditions were such that male missionaries were only permitted by consular orders to visit their stations and itinerate from station to station and return to this center after a couple of weeks. Now young children from boarding-schools are allowed to be taken to their parents in inland stations for their Christmas holidays; and children under school age live with their parents on the stations, and, with but one exception,—Shensi,—missionaries are allowed to travel freely over the provinces.

"Famine hovers threateningly over three provinces of this sub-Agency. Banditry is still prevalent almost everywhere, but mercifully it is on the decline, and order is gradually getting the ascendancy.

"As regards our methods of work: Bibles and New Testaments are supplied in response to orders from missionaries,—foreign and Chinese,—from Christians who write direct, and from callers at the depot. At the commencement of the term, orders for these were not numerous, because the Chinese pastors were the only ones on the field and had not funds available to lay in a stock of books for the church members to purchase from them. At this time the Pocket Testament scheme was in full force, and very many pastors were thus enabled to put Testaments into the hands of those who would promise to carry and read the books.

More Books Wanted

"A lady writes: 'We reached the outstation in twenty days. Had a safe journey—experienced the love and protection of God all the way—got the workers arranged in two bands—five men and two women in each—with the addition of Mr. H., my Bible woman, and myself. We three are not stationary, but go from one band to the other. Each band took five hundred portions. Our band went to the east. The first three days we were sold out of portions. If we can get more books, I am sure we can sell one thousand portions during the next ten days. One of the evangelists has been sitting at the entrance, sell-

ing portions. I could sell one thousand myself, if I had them, I am sure. It is a great work, I think, to get the Word of God into the homes of the people. This has always been one of my hobbies.'

"Mr. Ting in his report says: 'Owing to the accident of famine and destruction by soldiers, the portions were very hard to sell. On the 14th we started to preach and distribute in W——, where we sold 74 copies, and learned that most of the people were interested in our message. The next day we turned to C—— and sold 40 portions, and then went to T—— and sold 101 copies of your portions. Then we returned to our homes to rest, and on the 22d we went to K—— and sold 83 portions. Within these few days we have distributed 6,460 portions, and none of yours remain in our hands.'

"These are but samples of numerous reports received.

"Successful donating has been done among prisoners in this Hankow area, as the following extracts from letters show:—

"Mr. Chien writes:—'I am a native of S—— and was baptized in the Presbyterian church there. I have been shut up in this jail without having done anything wrong. Please kindly pray for me, that God will help me to leave here soon. There is no Bible in my room. Give me a Bible. I used to read frequently.'

"Mr. Shih wrote:—'Your Bible reached me yesterday, which makes me very glad, as I can read it when in sorrow. From this Scripture I can obtain pleasure and learn how to repent of my error. I am now in jail, the same as Joseph. I can pray day and night and hope that God will help me to leave here soon. Please give me a hymn book; then I can sing every day as St. Paul and his friend sang in the prison, 'Glory to God'.'

"Through the greater part of the year the work has been held up for lack of transportation facilities. Not only have there been no freight cars available for merchandise on the railway, but even cars to transport mail have not been obtainable; so that postal facilities have been closed down for long periods. On account of this, large numbers of Scripture portions destined for Kansu did not get into the mail until the close of the term and, therefore, could not be included in the circulation of the year. We rejoice that this hindrance no longer exists.

"We have now the assistance of Mr. C. A. Rao to help develop the work on the field, commencing with the new term. We have the cooperation of the Chinese pastors and church workers with us as never before. We have an increasing consciousness of our own insufficiency for the task, and the necessity to seek to do the work through the power of the Holy Spirit. We need, and expect, the prayers of all supporters and friends."

WEST CHINA SUBAGENCIES

(Chungking and Chengtu)

It seems a far cry to West China, but Mr. Torrance brings it vividly before us in what he has to say of the year's working.

"When Elijah fled from the face of Jezebel to Mount Horeb, and Jehovah passed by, a great and strong wind rent the mountains and brake in pieces the rocks; but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake, but Jehovah was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. The prophet's surmises were wrong. But after the fire came a still small Voice, more awesome to the man of God than all the preceding phenomena; for the Lord, indeed, was in that. Jehovah now was verily passing by. And Elijah, hearing it, hid his face in humility in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave.

"Last year in China we had the great and strong wind of 'nationalism,' which many supposed the Lord was in, and an earthquake of communism followed by a fearsome, consuming fire of civil strife; but now, the still small voice is being heard all over the land, and we know for a certainty that God is in it. We know it instinctively and unmistakably.

"The colporteurs and voluntary workers have been meeting an unprecedented demand. After the trying, dangerous times they experienced in 1927, when threatenings, curses and malignant opposition met them at every turn, it has been a year of surprise and liberty for them. Their heroic endurance and rare earnestness have brought them out to great and glorious opportunities. To have circulated over 400,000 Scripture portions so soon after China's communistic upheaval and antforeign rampage, is indeed a magnificent achievement for them.

A Cheering Welcome

"On my return to China in May two facts stared me hard in the face. The first was the welcome given me by all classes of Chinese, and the unequalled chance there is now presented of preaching the gospel; the second was the coolness and deadness of many of the church leaders.

"A third soon became equally plain; viz., the decided preference of the average Chinese to listen to the foreign missionary rather than to one of his own people.

"Naturally these facts served to shape and direct my own activities. We pushed on again in the circulation of the smaller books, and right loyally the colporteurs responded. We sent out to every station and outstation a circular on the necessity of earnest daily Bible reading for the increase of spiritual life. The fact that a large number of baptized Christians in Szechwan neither possess a New Testament nor a whole Bible, coupled with the revelation in our books that hardly a Chinese paid preacher had bought for himself or his flock, during the year, a single copy of the Scriptures, made this imperative.

"Letters from various and widely separated stations tell one and the same tale, that the Word of God is still powerful to turn men to God and righteousness. It is the reading of it, and that alone, that

clinches men's faith in Jesus Christ. Tracts, talks, sermons, do a great deal in introducing people to Him; but it is only when they come face to face with Him, in his own Word, that their loyalty to God becomes secure.

"On Bible Sunday I spoke in the Canadian first church here. At the close, the Chinese pastor told how he himself had first come to church through the reading of a copy of Genesis which he had bought from Dr. Spencer Lewis, of the Methodist Episcopal Mission. He related, too, how at his former charge a whole family had been brought in from reading Gospels sold to them by Hou Kin-shan, one of our colporteurs.

"A list of the names and addresses of thirteen persons who have become Christians through the work of one worker has come to me.

The Old Book Wins

"Hsu P'ing-chang, a native of P'ih sien, was traveling on business in the south of the province. Fearing he might be impressed by some band of soldiers, to act as a coolie for them, he bought a Gospel to pass himself off as a Christian in the hope that that would prevent what he feared. In the course of his travels, he found himself at Kusong. Local fighting happening to break out, he took refuge in the mission premises. In this enforced idleness, he began to read the Bible. Herebefore he had not even read his Gospel. The reading was fatal to his indifference and unbelief. He could not get rid of what he did read. The truth verily laid hold on him. Returning to his native district, the Methodist preacher at Wenkiang found him and led him into the church. Now he is a member in full standing at P'ih sien, and a daily student of the Old Book.

"What is seen in all such cases is that it was the personal perusal of, and meditation on, the Scriptures that created faith and repentance in their hearts.

"Since the beginning of September, we have collected, at our meetings, the names and addresses of nearly two hundred men who have announced their willingness to study Christianity. Each has been given a Davis New Testament, and most a catechism and a general tract besides. No Testament has been given until this decision was taken. Space forbids my giving interesting details of others, besides these, who have received Testaments, and how a number have been started out in their prayer life through faith in the name of Jesus Christ. Our reward has been the seeing the new joy that lit up the faces of these fresh recruits for the kingdom of God.

Opposition Ceased? No!

"Please, do not imagine, however, that all opposition has ceased here. Oh, no! There are still some who hate the truth and hate it bitterly. A colporteur, in one of our streets, had his books snatched

from him and burned. Only yesterday another had a similar experience in the West Suburb, except that his books were taken away and destroyed. Military officials still persistently occupy a number of mission premises. News, too, has come of a destructive raid made by students on the Canadian Mission School for Girls at Tzeliutsing. The powers of darkness overreached themselves last year, but they are very far from being out of business. We are sure to experience yet more of their ill-will as the Lord's work progresses.

"The response to our circular about daily Bible reading among the churches has had very gratifying results, if not as extensive as one should have wished. Perhaps one of the best features has been that the 'laity' often excel the 'clergy' in their love of the divine Word. There is ever a seven thousand left in Israel. We missionaries require to take heart. God will not fail us. My own faith is far too weak, I know, considering the great and effectual door that has been opened to us. I tremble too much over my own impotence and get easily discouraged, when I should consider the almightiness of Jehovah."

Mr. Torrance reports a circulation for both sub-Agencies in West China of 430,389 volumes.

Leaving Mr. Torrance at his good work in West China, we wend our way to our important sub-Agency in North China.

NORTH CHINA SUBAGENCY

Here the Rev. E. A. Hoose has been carrying on a big work throughout the year. He had the assistance of the Rev. F. K. Jowe for half of the period reported. His statistical report shows a circulation for the year of 912 Bibles, 2,491 New Testaments, 1,100,703 portions, or a total of 1,104,106 volumes.

In the following report Mr. Hoose tells in his own words some of the experiences and advances made during the past year:

"If the writer could supply the imagination for the reader, the writing of a report would not be the difficult task it is without this important part necessary to its understanding. For one must imagine much that is not placed within the few paragraphs that tell of the year's work. To compress within a few pages the happenings and experiences of a year is a task for an expert. Even such might fail fully to do justice to some narratives, as cold print is a poor conductor of emotions and feelings. It is with some trepidation that I attempt to write of the year; for it has been a large year in many respects.

"The year opened under difficulties. The drive of the Nationalists had subsided by December 31, 1927, when the year opened, and there was some lull in rumors of coming danger. The selling of portions was greatly hampered in all fields owing to soldiers and bandits; and with the missionaries absent from their stations, it was almost impossible to sell Bibles.

"As the summer approached, things tightened up a bit; for the Na-

tionalist advance on the North and the Ankwochuen began anew. The nearer they approached, the more difficult it was to get men to sell portions; yet some daring individuals kept at their work.

"During the first week of June, Chang Tso-lin left the city, taking with him the entire rolling stock on the railroads, tying up traffic on all lines, and cutting off Peking from the world by rail. For four days we were without mail or telegraph. The gates of the city were closed for three days; then in marched the victorious Shansi troops, and on the morning of June 9 the Nationalists' flag waved over every shop and residence, enthusiast or doubter, in the city. The tenseness incident to the turnover soon passed, and a feeling of security settled down as nothing happened to people or property. The days of anxiety passed, and every one breathed more freely.

The Capital Changed

"The new government began to function soon after taking Peking, and one of the first decrees to go forth was the changing of the capital to Nanking. This left the business community speechless, and put thousands of officials and buildings on the scrapheap. Many of the petty officeholders and officials have had to be assisted to return to their homes, being left penniless.

"Missionaries gradually drifted back to their work, and a hopeful spirit took possession of the groups. Occupied property in the mission stations was slowly evacuated, and missionaries began to see what they could salvage from the scraps of remaining buildings and remaining equipment.

"The sub-Agency Secretary's family chose to stay in the city all summer, and take the chances on the heat, rather than the uncertainty of a sand boat to the coast.

"The Rev. Frank K. Jowe, formerly of the Presbyterian Mission, and a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, with a degree from Teachers' College, and two years' experience in evangelistic work and pastorate in the city, entered the employ of the Society on July 1. His task with the Bible Society is to travel to the stations both near and far, meet missionaries and native workers, acquaint them with the work the Society is trying to do in distributing the Scriptures, overseeing the distribution, and learning to know the workers. His chief task is a work of cultivation.

The New Bible House

"During all the trying days, and the uncertainty of what would happen if war came to our city, the new buildings at the Bible Society's lot kept growing and drew nearer to completion as spring passed into summer and summer to early fall.

"In the early summer it became necessary to set a day for the opening and dedication of the buildings, especially the Bible House. Oc-

tober 11 was set as that day. Thus for the balance of the time all worked toward October 11, and happy to say, nothing prevented the completion of the residence and the Bible House for the grand opening and dedication on the date set.

"As stated before, the date set for the opening and dedication of the new Bible House was October 11. Invitations to the number of 600 were sent out, asking all friends to attend the dedicatory services. Four hundred announcements of the removal to the new building were sent to the outstations, that those who could not come to join in the dedicating of the new structure might rejoice with us in its completion. The sun shone warm, and the lawn which had been prepared for the assembling of the guests looked beautiful with the wheat sod, the mat covered platform, and the 600 chairs scattered there. The wives of the members of the building committee, with the help of the caterers serving, reported that there were more than 400 guests served tea during the day. Of course, each one had to be escorted around the building, and this kept the ushers and helpers busy.

"An exhibit had been prepared, which drew much attention, as it was placed in the auditorium where all could see it as they drank their tea. Mr. Jowe had spent weeks preparing the pictures and the statements, working up to the last minute on some very special posters he wished to get ready. Dr. Wang Chih-ping, pastor of the Asbury Methodist Church, was chairman of the meeting, and Dr. Chang Polin, of Nankai University, Tientsin, gave the principal address of the afternoon.

"The keys of the building were handed to the sub-Agency Secretary by a representative of the building committee with an appropriate speech, which was replied to by the Rev. F. K. Jowe, the Field Secretary. The words of dedication were read responsively in Chinese,—indeed, the whole service with the exception of one speech was in Chinese,—with Dr. Wang leading, and he pronounced the building dedicated and open for service. Mr. Ray Clarke Tillinghast spoke as New York's representative from the Board of Managers. Dr. T. C. Wu, chairman of the advisory committee in Shanghai, spoke briefly. Mr. Godfrey Hirst, of the Society's office in Hankow, represented that place. Mr. T. J. Toop represented the British and Foreign Bible Society, coming from Tientsin; while Mr. David McGavin was present from Tientsin, representing the National Bible Society of Scotland. There were over three hundred guests at the service. Mrs. E. O. Wilson, the leading contralto of the city, was our soloist at the dedicatory service. Dr. Y. Y. Tsu, director of religious work and social service of Peking Union Medical College, read the Scriptures. Elder Kuoh, one who worked with the committee on the translation of the Scriptures into Mandarin, when the Union Version was translated, now a very old man, but alert mentally, read a Psalm with much feeling. Pastor Meng of the Chinese Christian Church, an outstanding organization in the city, led in prayer. The service was most im-

pressive, and many were the remarks on the fitness and the fineness of the service.

"The sub-Agency Secretary's family moved to the new residence the first of September.

The Field Secretary's Work

"Mr. Jowe traveled to the stations in southern Chihli during the end of the year, and at the time of making up the yearly report was still in the field. His letters are full of interesting accounts of meeting people, speaking, selling books, and acquainting folks with the stock carried in our Peking Agency. He spoke in one center six times in one day, and a missionary wrote me, 'We thank the Society for sending such a man as Mr. Jowe into our field.' Another wrote, 'I want to send a word of appreciation for the services of Mr. Jowe here at Shuntehfu. He certainly does give a fine spiritual message, and his display of Bibles is most attractive. We are trying to treat him well enough so he may come again.'

"Several orders are coming in from the field as a result of Mr. Jowe's work. He has increased the sales of portions in the city, having often visited the volunteer workers at their posts of selling, giving encouragement and help. He has found a cordial welcome at every turn, and the time is surely ripe for just such a worker.

"The future is bright with hope. We see some light ahead. There is a new spirit abroad. We had a man come in to the office the other day and order fifty copies of the \$3 leather bound Bible for gifts to his friends. The missionaries have begun to send in their orders, and we look for a better year ahead. God has been good to us. We rejoice in His service, and the opportunity to aid in the distribution of His Word. Our new Bible House and residence are a landmark: our Bible House is large enough that we can carry enough stock always to supply our customers. We look forward to peace, and better conditions for the populace, with continued interest in His Word."

SHANGHAI HEADQUARTERS

Our travels end at Shanghai, where we have to take up the part played in the report under the above heading. Naturally, much of our work here has to do with the manufacture and disbursement of the Scriptures to the various sub-Agencies for circulation throughout China, as well as the various financial matters connected with the same. There is, in addition, the considerable work of carrying on a general correspondence with our helpers throughout China, as well as with the Home Office and other Agencies outside of China.

The Shanghai Headquarters also takes a hand in the circulation, and of the total recorded for the year the following should be put to the credit of this office:

<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>For Blind</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Concordance</i>
3,890	150,172	1,431,851	16	1,585,929	5

The sale of portions from the Shanghai depot has greatly increased, as is evident by the comparison of 1928 with 1927. During 1927 a total for the Shanghai Headquarters of 884,561 was reached; 1928 gives an increase of 701,368. This success is part of the general movement all over China. Requests for books poured in, and while they lasted, we filled our orders.

During 1929 the aim will be to attend more and more to quality of work, so as to make possible the increasing of spiritual results.

Then, in the matter of Bibles and New Testaments, all our helpers are seeking to bring about a strong feeling in favor of daily Bible reading. Mr. Torrance touches on this in his report, and the others are also working hard at the idea.

It is of the utmost importance that we press forward along these roads which are so open and free to us at this period. There are not wanting signs that it may not always be as it has been this past year. Anti-Christian outbursts here and there show that the power of the enemy of the Scriptures—of light—is not entirely broken. Should we not, therefore, take advantage of the present open-mindedness of the people, and supply to them the Scriptures up to their fullest capacity to absorb the same?

There is famine in at least four of the northern provinces, and many are the efforts made to relieve it. Let it never be said that the general call for the Scriptures has to go unheeded for lack of supplies!

May God's richest blessing rest on all who contribute to the spreading of the Word of Life by means of the printed page!

New Publications

The only new publication during 1928 was the Mandarin New Testament in Chinese and Phonetic Script in parallel columns.

The British and Foreign Bible Society's new publications for 1928 were:—

Mandarin—New Testament, character and phonetic script.

Lisu—the Book of Acts.

Mandarin and Ningpo dialect—St. Mark's Gospel (Ningpo romanized and Mandarin character in parallel columns).

Manufactures

The following is a comparison of the manufactures for the past two years:

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Total</i>
For the year 1927.....	2,186	182,125	2,576,250	2,760,561
For the year 1928.....	3,155	83,986	5,110,500	5,197,641
Increase over 1927.....	969	.....	2,534,250	.....
Decrease from 1927.....	.....	98,139	.....	.....
Net increase over 1927....	.....	.....	.....	2,437,080

Publications for 1928

The following are the publications for 1928:

Place of Publication	Dialect	Books	Volumes
Shanghai	Mandarin	Bible	2,605
"	"	New Testament	64,926
"	"	Genesis	440,000
"	"	Exodus	80,000
"	"	Job	65,000
"	"	Psalms	9,000
"	"	Proverbs	95,000
"	"	Daniel	85,000
"	"	Jonah	30,000
"	"	Matthew	788,500
"	"	Mark	788,000
"	"	Luke	788,500
"	"	John	795,000
"	"	Acts	788,000
"	"	Romans	95,000
"	"	James	30,000
"	"	1st John	50,000
"	Mandarin Phonetic and Character	New Testament	850
"	Easy Wenli	Bible	255
"	Wenli	New Testament	10,500
"	"	Genesis	3,000
"	"	Matthew	28,000
"	"	Mark	28,000
"	"	Luke	28,000
"	"	John	28,000
"	"	Acts	28,000
"	Canton Colloquial	Bible	280
"	"	New Testament	1,660
"	"	Matthew	6,500
"	"	Mark	6,500
"	"	Luke	6,500
"	"	John	16,000
"	"	Acts	5,000
"	Cantonese and English	New Testament	500
"	Fuchau Colloquial	Bible	5
"	"	New Testament	5,050
"	Shanghai Colloquial	Bible	10
"	"	New Testament	500
Total			5,197,641

Publications for 1928, Classified According to Dialects and Terms

Dialects	Shen	Shangti	Total
Mandarin	545,070	4,449,461	4,994,531
Mandarin, Phonetic and Character		850	850
Easy Wenli		255	255
Wenli	25,000	128,500	153,500
Canton Colloquial	41,440	1,000	42,440
Cantonese and English		500	500
Fuchau Colloquial		5,055	5,055
Shanghai Colloquial		510	510
	611,510	4,586,131	5,197,641
Bibles	280	2,875	3,155
Testaments	730	83,256	83,986
Portions	610,500	4,500,000	5,110,500
	611,510	4,586,131	5,197,641

Total Manufactures by the China Agency

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
Prior to 1928	373,012	1,737,112	47,937,502	50,047,626
For 1928	3,155	83,986	5,110,500	5,197,641
Total manufactures	376,167	1,821,098	53,048,002	55,245,267

Additions to Stock, 1928

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions for Blind	Scriptures	Total	Concordance
Manufactures	3,155	83,986	5,110,500		5,197,641	
Home Office	263	63	52		378	20
Purchased from other						
Bible Societies	50	312	8,527	41	8,930	
Other additions	40	117	23,274		23,431	
Total direct additions	3,503	84,478	5,142,353	41	5,230,380	20

Issues from the China Agency for the Year Ending December 31, 1928

	Bibles	Testa- ments	Portions	Scriptures for Blind	Total	Concord- ance
Direct issues	7,890	155,953	4,510,239	41	4,674,123	5
Indirect issues						
To other Bible Societies	1,230	590	13,558	.....	15,378	.....
To Home Office	175	1,262	22,900	.....	24,337	.....
To other Agencies	8	134	80,750	.....	80,892	.....
Total indirect issues...	1,413	1,986	117,208	.....	120,607	.....
Total direct issues....	7,890	155,953	4,510,239	41	4,674,123	5
Total issues for 1928..	9,303	157,939	4,627,447	41	4,794,730	5

Issues from the China Agency for the Year Ending December 31, 1928
According to Languages and Dialects

LANGUAGES	DIRECT				INDIRECT				GRAND TOTALS			
	Bibles	Test's	Portions	Total	Bibles	Test's	Portions	Total	Bibles	Test's	Portions	Total
Annamese.....			14	14							14	14
Arabic.....	1	1		2					1	1		2
Cambodian.....			2	2							2	2
Wenli, High.....	20	122		142	10			10	30	122		162
Wenli, Easy.....	27			27	86			86	113			113
Wenli, Un. Ver.....	653	9,243	46,801	56,697	339	212	66,250	66,801	992	9,455	113,051	123,498
Mandarin.....	5,867	134,829	4,439,357	4,580,078	677	162	13,798	14,637	6,544	134,991	4,453,155	4,594,715
Phon Scr.....		79	137	216		1	200	201		80	337	417
Char. & Ph. Scr.....		282	133	415		1		1		283	133	416
and English.....		154	211	365		3		3		157	211	368
Romanized.....			34	34							34	34
Amoy Coll.....	2	4		10					2	4		10
Canton.....	460	4,010	22,595	27,081	295	1,099	36,960	38,354	755	5,109	59,555	65,435
Canton & English.....		11	27	38		500		500		511	27	538
Chungchia Coll.....			2	2							2	2
Chuanmiao.....			2	2							2	2
Foochow Coll.....	2	6,277		6,284					2	6,277		6,284
Hainan.....			6	6							6	6
Hinghwa.....	205			205					205			205
Hwa Lisu.....			4	4							4	4
Hwa Miao.....		2		2						2		2
Kienning.....		2	10	12						2	10	12
Kienyang.....			2	2							2	2
Laka.....			2	2							2	2
Lao.....			6	6							6	6
Lisu.....			6	6							6	6
Manchu.....			4	4							4	4
Manchu & Wenli.....			4	4							4	4
Mongolian.....		4	24	28						4	24	28
Nosu Coll.....			4	4							4	4
Ningpo.....	2	4		6					2	4		6
Shanghai.....	170	349		519					170	349		519
Shanghai.....			127	127							127	127
Soochow.....		17		17						17		17
Soochow.....			16	16							16	16
Soochow.....			28	28							28	28
Swatow.....		1		1						1		1
Taichow.....		8		8						8		8
Tingchow.....			2	2							2	2
Tibetan.....		2	32	34						2	32	34
Wenchow.....			2	2							2	2
Japanese.....	1	2	5	8					1	2	5	8
English.....	467	543	615	1,625	6	8		14	473	551	615	1,639
French.....	2			2					2			2
German.....	2			2					2			2
Greek.....	1			1					1			1
Greek and English.....		1		1						1		1
Hungarian.....	1			1					1			1
Polish.....		1		1						1		1
Russian.....	7	5		12					7	5		12
For the Blind												
Mandarin.....			25	25							25	25
Canton Coll. Braille.....			16	16							16	16
Totals.....	7,890	155,953	4,510,239	4,674,123	1,413	1,986	117,208	120,607	9,303	157,939	4,627,447	4,794,730

Total Direct Issues from the China Agency

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>For Blind</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Concord- ance</i>
Prior to 1928.....	355,418	1,620,408	47,777,192	....	49,753,018	....
For 1928	7,890	155,953	4,510,239	41	4,674,123	5
Total direct issues	363,308	1,776,361	52,287,431	41	54,427,141	5

Total Circulation of the China Agency

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>For Blind</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Concord- ance</i>
Prior to 1928.....	356,757	1,599,250	46,576,119	....	48,532,126	....
For 1928	7,890	155,953	4,510,239	41	4,674,123	5
Total circulation..	364,647	1,755,203	51,086,358	41	53,206,249	5

Comparison of Circulation for 1927 and 1928

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testa- ments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>For Blind</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Concord- ance</i>
For 1927	5,348	211,121	2,893,223	....	3,109,692	....
For 1928	7,890	155,953	4,510,239	41	4,674,123	5
Increase over 1927.....	2,542	.....	1,617,016	41	.....	5
Decrease from 1927....	.....	55,168	.....	.....	.....	.....
Net increase over 1927..	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,564,431	.....

Details of Circulation for 1928

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testa- ments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>For Blind</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Concord- ance</i>
Sales by depositories.....	4,458	153,355	13,049	25	170,887	5
Sales by correspondents (vol. workers)	3,248	2,321	4,233,752	....	4,239,321	....
Sales by colporteurs.....	.....	.....	260,458	.....	260,458	....
Total sales	7,706	155,676	4,507,259	25	4,670,666	5
Donations at depositories..	184	277	2,980	16	3,457	.....
Total circulation	7,890	155,953	4,510,239	41	4,674,123	5

Total Circulation of Scriptures in China for 1928

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testa- ments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>For Blind</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Concord- ance</i>
American Bible Society..	7,890	155,953	4,510,239	41	4,674,123	5
British and Foreign Bible Society (b).....	17,233	159,427	3,775,149	....	3,951,809	....
National Bible Society of Scotland	1,310	97,821	2,728,615	....	2,827,746	....
1928	26,433	413,201	11,014,003	41	11,453,678	5
1927	22,419	556,271	7,909,368	....	8,488,058	.....
Decrease .....	.....	143,070	.....	.....	.....	.....
Increase	4,014	.....	3,104,635	41	2,965,620	5

(a) Of these 352,330 copies were issued for account of the Million Testaments for China Campaign, as follows: American Bible Society, 146,946 copies; British and Foreign Bible Society, 111,435 copies; National Bible Society of Scotland, 93,949 copies.

(b) The British and Foreign Bible Society have arranged to close their accounts one month earlier, hence the above statistics are this time for eleven months only.

Details of Circulation for 1928 by the Society's Sub-Agency Secretaries

FROM THEIR DEPOSITORIES

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testa-ments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>For Blind</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Concord-ance</i>
SOUTH CHINA						
Canton—H. O. T. Burkwall (acting)	162	464	404	....	1,030	....
WEST CHINA						
Chengtu—T. Torrance....	79	171	20	....	270	....
Chungking—T. Torrance..	109	83	.....	....	192	....
CENTRAL CHINA						
Hankow—G. Hirst	1,110	1,420	1,948	25	4,503	....
NORTH CHINA						
Peiping—E. A. Hoose....	590	2,101	368	....	3,059	....
EAST CHINA						
Shanghai—T. Wong.....	337	82	.....	....	419	....
Hinghwa Depository	52	.....	65	....	117	....
Shanghai Headquarters ..	2,019	149,034	10,244	....	161,297	5
Total by depositories....	4,458	153,355	13,049	25	170,887	5

BY CORRESPONDENTS (VOLUNTARY WORKERS)

REPORTING TO THE AGENCY DIRECT AND THROUGH THE SUBAGENCIES

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testa-ments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>For Blind</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Concord-ance</i>
SOUTH CHINA						
Canton	821	881	66,563	....	68,265	....
WEST CHINA						
Chengtu .....	....	.....	67,348	....	67,348	....
Chungking	39	23	226,400	....	226,462	....
CENTRAL CHINA						
Hankow	192	53	890,246	....	890,491	....
NORTH CHINA						
Peiping	289	272	1,089,300	....	1,089,861	....
EAST CHINA						
Shanghai	76	18	535,757	....	535,851	....
Shanghai Headquarters....	1,831	1,074	1,358,138	....	1,361,043	....
Total by correspondents	3,248	2,321	4,233,752	....	4,239,321	....

BY NATIVE COLPORTEURS

REPORTING TO THE AGENCY DIRECT AND THROUGH THE SUBAGENCIES

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testa-ments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>For Blind</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Concord-ance</i>
SOUTH CHINA						
Canton			26,353	....	26,353	....
WEST CHINA						
Chengtu			119,029	....	119,029	....
Chungking			17,000	....	17,000	....
CENTRAL CHINA						
Hankow			24,474	....	24,474	....
NORTH CHINA						
Peiping			10,800	....	10,800	....
EAST CHINA						
Shanghai Headquarters ..			62,802	....	62,802	....
Total by native colporteurs			260,458	....	260,458	....

Total Sales

BY DEPOSITORIES, CORRESPONDENTS, AND COLPORTEURS

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testa-ments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>For Blind</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Concord-ance</i>
Depositories	4,458	153,355	13,049	25	170,887	5
Correspondents	3,248	2,321	4,233,752	....	4,239,321	....
Colporteurs .....	....	.....	260,458	....	260,458	....
Total sales	7,706	155,676	4,507,259	25	4,670,666	5

Donations

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testa-ments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>For Blind</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Concord-ance</i>
Depositories	184	277	2,980	16	3,457	....
Total sales	7,706	155,676	4,507,259	25	4,670,666	5
Total circulation, 1928..	7,890	155,953	4,510,239	41	4,674,123	5



JAPAN AGENCY

The Japanese Agency was established in 1876. From 1890 to 1904 Bible work in Japan was carried on as a joint Agency with the British and Foreign Bible Society and the National Bible Society of Scotland. With the beginning of the calendar year 1904, the Agency was divided, the northern portion of the country being assigned to the American Bible Society. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. Karl E. Aurell, No. 1 Shichome, Ginza (next door to Kyobunkwan), Tokyo, Japan.

The circulation for the year 1928 was 10,401 Bibles, 62,489 Testaments, and 808,453 portions, making a total of 881,343 volumes. The total circulation since the establishment of the Agency is now 9,373,894 volumes. The distribution in 1928 was carried on by 26 colporteurs and 95 correspondents.



WHEN an Agency can report that "every Monday morning from nine o'clock all inside and outside workers observe a half hour of special devotion, when each one carries every other to the Lord in earnest prayer," one readily gets a key to the remarkable record of the year. The field workers covered more than 30,000 miles in canvassing 274,120 homes and 646 institutions. A newly organized bicycle brigade of nine colporteurs, among whom three over fifty years of age had never used a bicycle, is also an explanation of the large work accomplished. Perhaps no better service can be rendered the reader than to call attention to some of the many surprising stories which follow. "One of Many," "The Influence of a Bible Selling Missionary," "The Large New Testament from a Secondhand Shop," should strengthen faith in the Word and stimulate zeal for its circulation.

Nineteen twenty-eight—the third year of the Showa era, the year of the Dragon, a creature in the oriental mind suggestive of heavenly and spiritual power—has passed into history as a year that will long be remembered by the present generation because of the enthronement of His Majesty the Emperor Hirohito.

Generally speaking, as a Japanese paper puts it, "1928 was a bad year for Japan." Internal and external conditions tended toward increased hardship and depression. However, the great event of the enthronement overshadowed everything. Also, the marriage of Prince Chichibu to Miss Setsuko Matsudaira, although of less ceremonial significance, was of nation-wide interest and satisfaction. These two events centered the minds and hearts of these loyal people on their Imperial House to such a degree that aggravations and worries in general were much alleviated.

Yet, many and great problems still remain and demand solution. For instance, in regard to the interrelated industrial and commercial aspect, it is as true now as it was in 1925, that "the costs of production in Japan are still high, and Japanese exports are continuing to fight great battles for a place in world markets." Japan still retains the unenviable reputation of being the costliest country in the world in which to live. High costs of production are bound to continue until the cost of living decreases. Indirectly and directly, this situation has made the struggle for existence difficult for the great majority of its citizens and residents.

In the social and economic field the local problems of population seemingly grow more serious with time. The population, which increases at a remarkable rate each year, gives rise to the problem of food supply, emigration, and industrialization, and is considered by most authorities to be the outstanding question for solution before this nation. The lapse of the years brings changes which cannot be stopped nor ignored. The old governing classes can not but regard this situation with something like dismay. Yet, there are a number of leaders who recognize these facts and are earnestly doing all in their power to instruct and lead the masses, so that sound or sane thinking may prevail, resulting in wise and careful actions. That, however, is a stupendous task. All lovers of Japan should pray that the spirit of the great world emancipator—Christ—may take possession of hearts and lives all over the Empire, so that peace and concord be retained, and a happy solution worked out for every problem.

Morality, in the general sense of the word, is undergoing a tremendous test. Apparently, the day is close at hand in which high and low will cry out, "What shall I do to be saved?" While accessions to the membership of the Christian churches are still far from satisfactory, it is nevertheless a fact that poverty in the soul of the people at large is keenly felt. The following three sentences from a letter voice that condition quite aptly:

"I am trying to avoid falling into evil practices of men all around me. I am determined to obtain knowledge of Christianity, hoping it will yield me moral strength. Please to send me a copy of the New Testament which you publish for the benefit of the poor in spirit."

Dr. Axling, of the National Christian Council, made the following pertinent remarks: "The high tides of material civilization, which during recent years have swept across the nation, have left the soul of Japan starved and oppressed by an overwhelming sense of loss. The Japanese heart is hungry. The minds of the masses are restless. On every hand there is a new turning of the people to some form of religion.

"The inroads of communism and the spread of false and fanatical faiths have shocked the government and the thoughtful leaders into a great awakening. They have abandoned their erstwhile no-religion atti-

tude and are making frantic appeals to religious organizations to come to the rescue.

"In the present nation-wide evangelistic campaign, the department of Education is sending word to prefectural and city officials, urging them to cooperate in these local evangelistic campaigns by opening the schools to our speakers, and also by encouraging teachers and students to attend the public meetings. In all the years of its history in this land, Christianity has never faced so great and challenging an opportunity as it does today."

Colportage—A God-pleasing Method

"Whatsoever is commanded by God of Heaven, let it be done diligently."

The Bible must be borne to the destitute by messengers who have the Spirit of Christ. It must be commended to the ignorant by those who prize and understand its truth. Men and women serving as our colporteurs may not know the science of salesmanship; but, thank God, they know the power of the gospel experimentally. It took sin and selfishness out of their hearts, and burdened them with divine love for souls. This experience "put the go" into them, and even though some of them have been strenuously working for many years, they are today still "going strong." That they are human and frail, having to lean hard on the Almighty to be enabled to continue in this work, the following testimony of one of them shows: "I took up colportage of Scriptures with much hesitancy, fearing I would not succeed; but the words of Paul—'I can do all things through Him who strengtheneth me,'—and the encouragement of fellow-workers have helped me to carry on with it until now. My pastor's wife always said to me: 'You must not forget that with the Lord Jesus you are *two* walking together. It is not good to think *you* alone are doing the work. You will get discouraged when the work is hard and poor results follow. If you have not faith that Jesus is with you, you will fail.' Thus in conscious fellowship with Christ I have continued my work." This reminds us of the Old Testament passage, "According to the good hand of God upon us, we *prepared* our hearts to seek the law of the Lord and *do it*."

Through years of experience it has been found important to direct colportage with due regard to seasons of the year in which the different classes of people have more leisure time. While tillers of the soil and fishermen have their busy seasons, our workers fall back into the cities or towns. In some regards work in cities and towns is not so strenuous; but the much-made-of "new day," with its varied opportunities, social attractions, engagements, and what not, more and more distracts and diverts the attention of these restless multitudes from the serious worthwhile aspects of life. In relation to the rural folk, however, our colporteurs' reports agree with the statement of a recently retired missionary, who said, "Access to rural Japan—the Japan of the common people—is invitingly open. Access to the heart of the country people is increasingly possible; the internal barriers of the spirit are rapidly weak-

ening." Modern frivolity is yet comparatively little known to them, and their minds are simpler and more receptive. While our devoted colporteurs labored with courage and zeal, overlooking no class of people in centers of teeming thousands, during the past year they have found more satisfaction in laboring in the real country districts. According to the grace given them, they have been helping to fulfill the Saviour's great commission to preach the gospel to all mankind. By means of colportage the Scriptures go in advance of other agencies, and assert their power to enlighten and to save, so that believers are found waiting to hear the oral gospel and ready to be gathered into churches.

The Staff and What Was Accomplished

Beside the faithful staff of nine serving at the Bible House in Tokyo, there were twenty-six colporteurs in the field. Of the latter, nine men labored the whole year; six men worked six and more months; and eleven men shorter periods of time.

As in previous years, practically all members of the Agency merited commendation for faithful and diligent service. Interdependence is well recognized on the part of both those who serve in the Bible House and those who serve outside in the field.

Every Monday morning from nine o'clock all inside and outside workers observe a half to three-quarters of an hour of special devotion, at which time each one carries every other one to the Lord in earnest prayer. This act has proved mutually most encouraging and inspiring.

Our records show that the workers in the field covered more than 30,000 miles in canvassing 274,120 homes and 646 institutions. About three-fourths of the year was given to the real rural districts. In order to facilitate easier and faster operation, our nine regular colporteurs were provided with bicycles—an act which has proved absolutely justifiable. It is a matter of much interest that three of these men, each fifty years of age, had never used a bicycle until this year, and some of us were dubious as to whether they ever could ride a wheel to advantage. However, the determination with which they attempted it, carried the day. Of each one of these plucky elders the following lines are true:

Somebody said that it couldn't be done;
But he, with a chuckle, replied
That maybe it couldn't; but he would be one
Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.
So he buckled right in, with a trace of a grin
On his face. If he worried, he hid it.
He started to sing as he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done—and *he did it*.

Physical illness at times weakened bodies. With the exception of one, Mr. Suzuki, who was called to higher realms of service, all regained good health and seemed to become stronger in faith and zeal, rendering better work than ever before.

Mr. Suzuki was stricken with tuberculosis. Until then he had been a good nominal Christian. Mrs. Suzuki, whom regular readers of these reports will recall as our most successful worker, had unceasingly

prayed that her husband might come into the experience of real salvation. Her prayer was answered. When his body broke down, his heart was completely renewed and made like that of his Redeemer. Love of self, with all which that implies, was completely replaced by a ceaseless outpouring of unselfish prayer and overflowing joy in the Lord. His love for Christ, and eagerness for the spread of the Gospels which reveal him to men, became so intense, that, although he needed considerable care, he urged his wife by all means to go out every day to take Gospels to as many homes as possible. It is an interesting fact that every day she *did* go out to do such work, she had the pleasure of returning home to report wonderful success to the suffering man. Starting out with a full pouch of Gospels, she returned with it empty. How her husband thanked God and rejoiced over it!

Space will not permit all that could be said. Mrs. Suzuki's testimony of the marvelous work of the all-changing grace of the Lord Jesus Christ in the latter months of the life of her husband subdued us all anew in the presence of our God, and all of us reconsecrated ourselves to more earnest and better service. Before his contented and happy spirit rose to glory, he urged his wife to continue all her life in the work of taking the message of the King of kings to the homes of this empire.

Reactions to the Reading of the Sacred Page

Instead of giving accounts of colporteurs' experiences in this report, the writer believes that the reader will be fully as interested in the following excerpts from letters daily received at the Bible House in Tokyo, which indicate how the sacred pages are used by the Holy Spirit:

"I am a young man far away in the country, constantly in touch with real nature day by day, early and late, engaged in farming. While on a recent journey, I bought one of your publications called the Gospel of Luke. In reading it this past month, my thinking has been much absorbed by its content, and I am strongly moved to draw near to God."

* * *

"I have read the part of the New Testament called Matthew, and herewith send you remittance for a copy of the whole book. I want to read it and, if possible, live a pure, pure life."

* * *

"I live in the interior and am struggling against a sad fate. I have been told that the sickness I am suffering from is incurable. A few days ago a set of five little books came into my possession. They brought me gladness and hope. Yes, I was benefited in every way. I want to read all the New Testament. Please to send it immediately."

* * *

"A few days ago, while at school, I bought five parts of the New Testament from a man of your Society. While reading them, the

existence of God became clearer and clearer to me. I am now praying for guidance into the way of faith. I am deeply impressed with the necessity of being saved from sin, in order to live a life of peace and joy. May I ask you to tell me of a minister who might instruct me. I am enclosing money for a copy of the New Testament."

* * *

"The other day I read the Gospel of Mark. I borrowed it from a friend. I was deeply impressed with the things written therein, and I want to continue to read the whole New Testament."

One of Many

On a Sunday in April Colporteur Imamura attended church service in a rural town. Five young men were baptized. After the close of the service, he met the minister who, upon learning that Imamura was a Bible Society worker, immediately exclaimed, "Let me tell you that one of the men baptized was led to Christ by reading a Gospel bought from one of your Society's colporteurs, who, last year, canvassed the school he attended." The young man and Imamura were brought together, and, through the conversation that followed, it was discovered, to the great delight of both, that Imamura was the very man who had handed that Gospel to that young man. Imamura said, "I believe this incident, perhaps, brought more joy to me than it did to my young friend. While I firmly believe the Scriptures are not scattered in vain, my faith was strengthened, my task made lighter, and as never before I regard it a supreme honor to take the message of the King of Glory, day after day, to any and all places where human souls abide."

Great Appreciation

In one village a man, who did not profess to be a Christian, expressed his appreciation of our colporteurs' work, as follows: He asked one of them, "Do you not receive subsidy from the home office toward this work?" "No," the worker answered. Again the man asked, "At this felicitous time of the enthronement of our Emperor, has not our government given some token of its appreciation of your labors?" "No, sir," our worker replied. "That is outrageous! Nothing would seem more proper than that the government should show some appreciation of a good work like this," the man exclaimed.

The colporteur, who reported this, requested us to be sure to tell the American people who support this work this incident. There are many Japanese throughout the Empire who are deeply grateful for the distribution of the Christian Scriptures.

"And the Word of God Grew and Multiplied"

While the presses spill forth their thousands and thousands of printed pages yearly, and the publishers busy themselves with finding "new notes" on their publicity trumpets, in order to insure continued success in the general book business, it is an interesting fact that the honors for the largest issues and circulation any year go to the Bible

Societies, which publish only one book *always without* "notes and comments" of any sort.

During 1928 the Japan Agency of the American Bible Society alone printed 1,006,835 copies, aggregating a total of about 121,085,200 pages. It circulated a total of 900,605 copies, with a total of about 117,326,330 pages.

The circulation this year almost equalled that of our banner year (1926), exceeding that of last year by 244,694 copies. The following summary indicates how it was done:

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Braille</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Value, Yen</i>
Sales by depository.....	9,833	58,286	169,432	142	237,695	74,111.09
Sales by colporteurs.....	256	1,191	569,277	371	571,095	11,098.92
Books donated	280	191	69,218	11	69,700	2,302.22
Total circulation	10,369	59,668	807,927	524	878,488	87,512.23
To other Bible Soc's.....	32	2,821	2	...	2,855	3,197.55
To Home Office	28	2,904	16,330	...	19,262	2,286.95
Grand total.....	10,429	65,393	824,259	524	900,605	92,996.73

Aside from Scriptures in Japanese, Bibles in twelve other languages were sold through this Agency—most of which were in English.

Donations to various institutions and groups were as follows: Seashore Summer Evangelism; Y. W. C. A. Rest Home; Library for the Blind; colporteurs; prison libraries; individual prisoners; Tokyo Citizens' Public Christmas Celebration; "Hochi" Newspaper Christmas Celebration; St. Luke's Hospital, Tokyo; patients in 271 hospitals throughout our territory; social free distribution; miscellaneous. For figures see item "Books Donated" in the above table.

Influence of a Bible-selling Missionary

Extracts from a letter to one of our honored interior city missionaries:

"It is now about twenty-five years since, as a mere youngster, I bitterly opposed Christianity. I regarded you as a spy, and often when I passed where you lived, I threw stones at your house. Boastfully I said to my friends: 'Zenkoji (a large temple known all over Japan) is the life of this city. Without this great temple our city can not prosper. We have no use for Christianity—we must get rid of it!'

"Later, when working as head clerk in a store, I saw you one day at the head of a company of people carrying lanterns and preaching on the main street. Another time, when you turned at a certain corner, I followed and, although I hated your religion, my heart was filled with wonder at your fervor. You stood there till eight or nine o'clock, and urged people to buy Gospels and Bibles. Turning to me with a Gospel, you said: 'Will you not have this? It costs only a sen.' I had no money with me; but, being deeply impressed with your conduct, I returned to the store and got a sen, and ran back and bought a copy of the Gospel

of Matthew. Next evening I bought Mark and Luke. I said to myself, 'That foreigner has something we know nothing about, and he has come from a far country to preach it. Surely there must be something in it. He stands there with smiling face night after night, offering Bibles and his religion to us. Without a doubt, he does not do that for the sake of taking in a few paltry sen.' Furthermore, the question came up within me, Does that one-sen book contain some important truth for me? I began to read it. As I read I resolved to go and receive instruction from you. I never threw stones at your house again. I began to respect and admire you. The turning point had arrived, and soon I entered the blessed Christian life.

"Years have elapsed since then; and when I tell the story of how I became a Christian, it is always that you and the one-sen Gospel brought that change into my life. Even now as I write, my emotions are deeply stirred, and my gratitude to you knows no bounds."

"In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thy hand; for thou knowest not which shall prosper, whether this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good."

The Large New Testament from a Secondhand Shop

One of our workers came across a Christian, in the interior, whose account of how a New Testament, purchased at a secondhand shop many years ago, became the direct means of his conversion, is so interesting and striking that, for the glory of our God, the writer feels it will make a fitting conclusion to this report.

The man lived in a town called Iwai, in the prefecture of Ibaraki. From ancient times this town has been famous for its large ill-fame houses, and this man was the keeper of one of the largest of them.

About twenty years ago, he made a visit to a famous hot spring bathing resort in the adjoining prefecture. In the course of days spent in idleness there, time hung heavily on his hands, and he greatly felt the need of getting out for a change. Presently he found himself in a nearby city, doing some purchasing. Passing by a secondhand shop, his eyes fell on a rather large book. and, looking closer, he discovered it was the New Testament. He had always had a strong dislike for Christianity, and, having nothing particular to do, he purchased the book for 20 sen, with the idea of reading to find defects with which to attack the Christian religion. In that attitude of mind it seemed to him there was much material which suited his purpose; but there was also not a little that astonished and favorably impressed him. Unavoidably new thoughts crowded his mind and clashed with old ideas, and his thought-world was completely disarranged.

For two years, while still running his disreputable business, he persisted in earnest study of that Testament. It was extremely difficult to get rid of his biased feeling toward Christianity. But every time he read the Gospel of John, a powerful light seemed to strike him;

his adverse attitude would, so to speak, vanish, and he was strongly inclined to bow in the dust under its charm.

In the meantime he also read Mr. Uchimura's magazine, *Bible Study*, and soon was enabled to grasp definitely the eternal truth, and became an out-and-out Christian.

In the light of that new experience, immediately he was convicted of the terrible evil business he was conducting, and at once determined to close it up. However, as he was an adopted son—having entered his present family by marriage—he was obliged to consult the parents as well as his wife. That was an extremely difficult thing to do. The day came when, with the firmest decision, the matter was to be taken up with them, and, to his surprise and gratification, he found them quite willing to consent to such a step. However, his fellow business men and other prominent men of the town bitterly opposed the idea and fought for the continuance of the brothel. In spite of this, having obtained the consent of his family, he turned a deaf ear toward all opposition. One day he called all the girls together, ordered that they should be decently and well dressed, and, hiring "jinrikishas," he took them to the police headquarters. There he properly and legally reported that he had retired from the ring of brothel keepers and had released every girl from a disgraceful life. In addition to that, to celebrate the event, he ordered great quantities of "mochi" (rice cakes) to be prepared and distributed among the poor of the town. It was such an extraordinary thing that a large number of the people decided the man had gone crazy.

True Christian Thoughtfulness

Having set the girls free, he naturally felt that it was not wise to let them go at once into society. They would be in danger of being ensnared and enslaved again in the life from which they had just been released. Therefore he took into his own house all those for whom already marriage had not been arranged, and had them trained in sewing and general housekeeping. In the course of time he managed it so that more were married and others were placed in positions where they were absolutely protected and happy.

The whole family became earnest Bible readers and joined the Friends' Church. Mr. Korokuro (his name) has been, and still is, an earnest lay worker in the church and very successful in personal work. There are many laymen—also ministers of the gospel—who were led into the Christian faith by the earnest labors of this man. Although he has reached his seventy-first milestone in age, he is in the best of health and strength and makes it difficult for younger men to keep up with him in activity for God.

The above-mentioned Testament, being a rare copy of an edition printed in 1885, was acquired by this Agency in exchange for a copy of the revised version. It contains a picture, and this account of Mr. Korokuro, and is rightly regarded as worthy of safekeeping as a testimony to coming generations, of the power of the sacred page.

MICRONESIA



LEASING messages have come from Micronesia. Not only is appreciation expressed of the real service rendered by the American Bible Society, but the financial returns from the denizens of those distant islands give added force to the reality of their thanks. In the previous year's report mention was made of nearly \$500 received from the Gilbert Islanders. During 1928, another remittance, which realized \$1,443.62, was received in payment for Scriptures supplied. Concerning this work, the Rev. G. H. Eastman, writing in 1928, reported:

The 500 Gilbertese Bibles shipped by you in February, 1927, came to hand safely. I am glad to report that efforts we have been making for a wider dissemination of the Scriptures and their more regular use, have been meeting with considerable success, so much so that the 500 Bibles are practically all gone now. * * *

It may be of interest to you to know that, with the help of a few personal friends, I have just installed a wireless station here. I can hear broadcasting from Australia and New Zealand, also from San Francisco and Los Angeles, under favorable conditions. My transmitter permits of my sending Morse Code messages to the government wireless station at Ocean Island, 400 miles away. I mention this, because circumstances might arise where, to save the great delay of months which it takes a letter to reach you, we might send you a request by wireless for more Bibles. If that should be the case at any time, this note may serve to set your minds at rest as to the genuineness of any such message. * * *

I am glad to tell you things are going well in our mission at the present time. On an island named Tabiteuea, where I spent three weeks a short time ago, no less than eight stone fetishes have just been destroyed. We had joy in singing the praises of God over the broken stones. One fetish was fittingly named "The god of the shifting foundations." It consisted simply of a few huge blocks of dead coral, perched on a big pile of shingle at the top of the beach. From the village where this fetish was destroyed about the time of my visit last year, has just come a request for a teacher. We rejoice to have the opportunity of leading these people to place their trust in the Living God who abideth for ever, whose foundations are unshakable.

A further shipment of 750 Gilbert Island Bibles was sent during the year.

Correspondence concerning Scriptures for the Marshall Islands, the Caroline Islands, and Nauru also shows how deeply grateful are the people for the much-needed Scriptures which this Society alone can supply, since it has the only plates for printing them.

AFRICA



OME service was rendered in Liberia by English Scriptures placed with various missionaries for "sale and distribution."

The Rev. Thomas S. Donohugh, D.D., of the Methodist Episcopal Board of Foreign Missions, agreed, during a visit to

Liberia, to look into conditions and report as to how best the Bible Society could meet the needs there. Scriptures were sent out in Benga, Bulu, Grebo, Luba-Lulua, Olunyore, Shilluk, Tswa, and Zulu to meet the requests from missions and Christians using those languages.

AUXILIARY AND COOPERATING BIBLE SOCIETIES



ESPIE the fact that there are now less than ninety-five auxiliary Bible Societies cooperating with the American Bible Society, the interest in the great work of Bible distribution is still increasing. Contributions formerly received through auxiliaries are now coming largely through churches; and the contributions from churches have been growing. The total contribution received from Auxiliary Societies in 1928 amounted to \$16,263.48. It is interesting to note that many of the most vigorous auxiliaries are over one hundred years old, practically all are over seventy years, and the average age, perhaps, would be nearer eighty-five years.

The Home Agencies of the American Bible Society were established, in part, to care for the work previously carried on by the auxiliaries. They minister to the needs in the states and regions where there are no auxiliaries mentioned in the statement which follows:

ALABAMA

The Alabama Bible Society in its seventy-seventh year has circulated 23,116 volumes of Scriptures, under the direction of the Rev. W. J. Elliott, its superintendent. Of this number 366 volumes were donated and 22,750 were sold for \$8,700.76. The receipts for the year were slightly over \$16,000.

CALIFORNIA

The California Bible Society has continued its services through the Pacific Agency. The secretary is the Rev. A. Wesley Mell, who is also in charge of the Pacific Agency of the American Bible Society. The trustees of the California Bible Society continue, in their advisory capacity, to counsel with Mr. Mell, and the report of the Pacific Agency covers the work of the auxiliary also.

CONNECTICUT

The Connecticut Bible Society has continued its work of circulating the Scriptures in that state, under the direction of the Rev. Samuel W. Raymond, its secretary. No report of its work has been received for the past year. The Haddam Auxiliary has contributed \$125, the Sharon Auxiliary, \$55.55, and the Middletown Auxiliary has increased its contribution for 1928 to \$150.

DELAWARE

The New Castle Female Bible Society has contributed \$20 to the world work of the American Bible Society.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The Washington City Bible Society carries on work with the National Capital Agency, of which the Rev. Dr. James H. Hyatt is in charge. It contributed \$1,000 to the work of the American Bible Society.

ILLINOIS

The Chicago Bible Society maintains its operations within the bounds of the city of Chicago and Cook County. Its board of managers is actively helpful to the Secretary in charge of the Northwestern Agency in an advisory capacity, as an executive committee of the Agency. The Chicago Bible Society makes grants and sells Scriptures at catalogue and reduced prices to mission workers in English and foreign languages. It gave \$261.80 to the American Bible Society for its general work.

Annual reports were received from the Menard County Bible Society, and the Randolph County Bible Society, the latter society sending in a donation of \$200 to the parent Society.

INDIANA

The Fayette County Bible Society contributed \$100 to the general work of the American Bible Society.

IOWA

The Foreston Welsh sent in a report of its work. No word was received from the Gomer Welsh and the Sharon and Linn Grove Societies.

KANSAS

The Emporia and Vicinity Welsh Bible Society has again contributed \$375 to the work of the American Bible Society. The United Bible Society of East Allen County purchased Scriptures to the amount of \$38.46 from the parent Society for its local work.

KENTUCKY

Covington and Vicinity—inactive.

MAINE

The Bible Society of Maine reports 30,335 families visited, 20,629 volumes of Scripture sold and 945 donated, making the total number of Scriptures distributed during the year 21,574 volumes. An income of \$2,308.39 was received from invested funds, and individual and church contributions amounted to \$4,886.67. This society purchased \$770.15 worth of Scriptures from the parent Society.

MARYLAND

The splendid annual report of the Maryland Bible Society shows a fine increase in the circulation of Scriptures—79,984 being distributed in comparison with 41,758 volumes in the previous fiscal year. In the ninety-five years of its existence, since reorganization, it has distributed 1,983,750 volumes and has contributed to the general work of the American Bible Society \$199,434.93 from its funds for the distribution of the Scriptures throughout the United States and other countries. One full-time and three part-time colporteurs were engaged in Bible work throughout the year. Special missionary colportage work was carried on among the Chinese and other foreign-speaking people of Baltimore. This society has contributed about \$22,500 to-

ward the erection of a Bible House in Peking, China, which was completed and opened in 1928.

MASSACHUSETTS

The one hundred and twentieth annual report of the Massachusetts Bible Society received in pamphlet form, is full of interest in the story it contains of the year's work. In 1927 the outstanding feature of their report was an extraordinary increase in circulation; but there was also a word of caution in the report against too high expectancy for the year 1928. The report for 1928 shows that the total circulation by sale and gift was 322,747 volumes, or 110,000 less than in 1927. On the other hand, it is more by nearly fifty thousand than the circulation of 1926. The secretary reports that, in some respects, 1928 was the best year in the recent history of their work. Scriptures were supplied in fifty-four different languages in the state of Massachusetts.

The New Bedford Auxiliary purchased \$200 worth of Scriptures from the parent Society to meet its local needs.

MINNESOTA

The Blue Earth County Welsh, the First Welsh, and the Ottawa Welsh Bible Societies sent in contributions to the world work of the parent Society of \$45, \$75, and \$68 respectively. The Judson and Vicinity Auxiliary made its annual report and contributed \$151.30 to the parent Society through Presbyterian Church channels.

MISSOURI

The St. Louis Bible Society in its eighty-second annual report shows books sold to the value of \$825.18, and books donated to the value of \$2,020.06. The Gasconade County Auxiliary and the Mt. Zion Auxiliary made contributions to the American Bible Society of \$100 and \$27 respectively.

NEBRASKA

The Wayne County Welsh Bible Society increased

its contribution to \$70.10 for the work of the American Bible Society.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

The New Hampshire Bible Society reports a drop in the circulation of Scriptures to 8,612 volumes, which is slightly over half the circulation of the year 1927. The circulation in 1927 was the largest year's circulation in the Society's history, realized in part through income from a special fund. Mr. J. C. Thorpe, who had been its vigorous president for ten years, resigned at the annual meeting in January, 1929, and died in May, 1929. He was deeply interested and personally active in the circulation of the Scriptures.

NEW JERSEY

The Belvidere Bible Society contributed \$189 to the general work of the parent Society; and the Hunterdon County Society made a generous contribution of \$400 for this work. Monmouth County, Somerset County, and Sussex County Auxiliaries contributed \$150, \$420.59, and \$332.05 respectively. The Sussex County Auxiliary purchased Scriptures to the amount of \$174.97 for its local work.

NEW YORK

This state is the home of the largest number of auxiliary societies. Eleven have made contributions to the parent Society, and eleven have also made efforts to supply local needs. The Albany County Bible Society reports a considerable sum of money invested, but does not report any work done during the year. The Buffalo City and Erie County Bible Society had an active and vigorous year, having circulated 73,000 volumes of Scriptures in thirty-six different languages. A contribution of \$50 was made to the American Bible Society for its world work. The Dutchess County Bible Society, which has dropped the word "Female" from its name, contributed \$325 to the parent Society and has continued its cooperation with the Eastern Agency in maintaining the Scripture booth at the Rhinebeck Fair.

The Freedom Welsh Bible Society contributed \$55.54 to the general work, and the Ghent Auxiliary, \$50. The Greene County Bible Society made a generous contribution of \$300 to the general work, and the Long Island Bible Society contributed \$100. The Niagara County Bible Society contributed \$500 and assisted in some local work. The Orange County Bible Society's annual report shows receipts amounting to \$1,116.86, but no contribution was made to the parent Society. They also report the death of their treasurer, Mr. Abner Hurtin. The Schoharie County Auxiliary and the Sullivan County Auxiliary contributed \$91.05 and \$29.48 respectively. The Ulster County Bible Society has been doing some local distribution. The Utica and Vicinity Welsh Bible Society contributed \$80 during 1928 for the world work. The Westchester County Society has purchased Scriptures to the amount of \$682.31 from the parent Society and contributed \$525 to the general work.

NORTH CAROLINA

The Tirzah Bible Society contributed \$200 during the year to the work of the American Bible Society.

OHIO

The Cedarville Bible Society contributed \$65 and has carried on some local work. The Cincinnati Young Men's Bible Society of Hamilton County, Ohio, continues to cooperate with the Central Agency of the American Bible Society. The Greene County and Piqua Female Societies have contributed \$100.38 and \$150 respectively, the latter society doing some local work also. The Salem and Van Wert County Auxiliary, centering at Vendocia, Ohio, contributed \$223 in 1928 through Presbyterian Church channels. The Troy Female Bible Society has contributed \$300, out of which 5 Life Members were constituted.

PENNSYLVANIA

The Pennsylvania Bible Society, with its several auxiliaries, continues to cooperate with the Atlantic

Agency of the American Bible Society. It contributed \$7,567.30 in 1928 for the work of the parent Society.

SOUTH CAROLINA

The Abbeville County Bible Society contributed \$217.93, the Charleston Bible Society, \$600, and the Rocky Creek Bible Society, \$50, to the general work of the Society, besides carrying on local work in their respective areas. The Union Bible Society of Fairfield and Richland Counties contributed \$52.29; and the Waxhaw and Shiloh Auxiliary contributed \$27.03 to the parent Society. No report of the work of the York County Society has been received.

TENNESSEE

The Duck River Bible Society contributed \$50 to the general work. The Nashville Bible Society has been doing some local work, having purchased \$74.36 of Scriptures for its needs. The Rock Creek Bible Society contributed \$34.21, but no report of its work has been received.

TEXAS

The Austin Bible Society sent in a report of its local work, but no contribution during the year 1928.

VERMONT

The Vermont Bible Society, working under the direction of Dr. George H. Spencer, secretary of the Massachusetts Bible Society, distributed by grants 721 Bibles and 736 portions, or a total of 1,457 volumes. This society contributed \$100 to the work of the American Bible Society. The West Pawlet Welsh Bible Society contributed \$34.

VIRGINIA

The Bible Society of Virginia continued its active cooperation with the South Atlantic Agency of the American Bible Society.

WEST VIRGINIA

The Jefferson County Bible Society (Shepherds-

town Branch) contributed \$50 to the parent Society.

WISCONSIN

The Columbus Welsh Bible Society contributed \$150 through Presbyterian Church channels; the First Welsh Bible Society of Oshkosh contributed \$60; the Ixonia Welsh Bible Society, \$50; and the Mifflin Welsh Bible Society, \$28, to the work of the American Bible Society. The Racine Welsh Bible Society contributed \$190. The Waukesha Welsh Bible Society's annual report was received, showing that the receipts for the year were \$328.05. The loyalty of the Welsh people to the Bible is well demonstrated by the support which they give to their local Bible societies as well as the parent Society.

VERSIONS



E present below, and in the pages which immediately follow, a list of the versions of the Holy Scriptures in which translation, revision, printing or distribution have been promoted by the Society, and a list of the names of missionary translators or revisers aided or supported by the Society.

There may be mistakes in these lists, and we would be glad to have such errors brought to our attention.

LIST OF LANGUAGES

**in which the translation, printing, or distribution of the Scriptures
have been promoted by the Society, to December 31, 1928**

Accra, Africa	Cambodian
Afrikaans	Carib
Ainu, Japan	Catalan
Albanian	Chamorro, Guam
Amharic, Abyssinia	Cherokee, American Indian
Annamese	Chimanyika, Africa
Arabic	Chinese—
Arabic-Egyptian, Africa	Mandarin, Peking
Arapahoe, American Indian	Mandarin (Northern)
Armenian (Ancient)	Mandarin, Phonetic Script
Armenian (Modern)	Mandarin, Schereschewski
Armenian (Ararat)	Mandarin, Union Version
Arrawack, Guiana	Mandarin (Roman)
Aymara, So. America	High Wenli
Azerbaijan, Turkish	High Wenli, Bridgman, Culbertson and Boone
Bambara, Africa	Easy Wenli, Union Version
Basque	Easy Wenli, Blodgett and Burdon Version
Bemba, Africa	Easy Wenli, Schereschewski Version
Benga, West Africa	Amoy Colloquial (Roman)
Bohemian	Canton Dialect
Bohemian-Slovak	Canton Dialect (Roman)
Breton	Chungchia (Roman)
Bulgarian	Fuchau Dialect
Bulu, West Africa	
Burmese	
Cakchiquel, American Indian	

China—Continued

Fuchau Dialect (Roman)	Eskimo
Hainan Dialect	Esperanto
Hainan Dialect (Roman)	Esthonian, Reval, Russia
Hakka Colloquial	Ethiopic
Hinghua Dialect (Roman)	Fijian
Hwa Miao	Finnish (Gothic)
Kalmuck	Finnish (Roman)
Kienning Colloquial (Roman)	Flemish, Belgium
Kienyang Colloquial (Roman)	French
Kinhwa Colloquial	Frisian
Kopu Colloquial	Fula, West Africa
Laka	Gaelic
Lisu, East	Galla, Borders of Abyssinia
Lisu, West	Georgian
Miao: Chuan	German
Miao: Hwa	German, Low
Ningpo Dialect	Gilbert Islands, Micronesia
Ningpo Dialect (Roman)	Grebo, Liberia
Nosu Colloquial	Greek (Ancient)
Peking Colloquial	Greek (Modern)
Sam Kiong Colloquial	Guarani, Paraguay
Shanghai Dialect	Hausa, Africa
Shanghai Dialect (Roman)	Hawaiian
Shantung Colloquial (Roman)	Hebrew
Suchau Colloquial	Hungarian
Suchau Colloquial (Phonetic)	Ibo, Africa
Suchau Colloquial (Roman)	Icelandic
Swatow Dialect	India—
Swatow Dialect (Roman)	Bengali
Taichow Dialect (Roman)	Bengali (Roman)
Tin Chin Dialect (Roman)	Gujarati
Tingchow Coll. (Roman)	Gurmukhi
Wenchow Coll. (Roman)	Hindi
Chinook Jargon, America	Kanarese
Choctaw, American Indian	Kashmiri
Cree, American Indian	Khasi
Creolese, Curaçao	Marathi
Croatian	Mundari
Dakota, American Indian	Nepali
Danish	Oriya
Delaware, American Indian	Pahari
Dholuo	Pali
Dikele, West Africa	Panjabi
Dutch	Sanskrit
English, American Revised Version	Santali-Bengali
English, Authorized Version	Sindhi
	Tamil

India—*Continued*

Telugu	Masai, Africa
Urdu, or Hindustani	Maya, American Indian
Indo-Portuguese	Mende, Africa
Irish	Miskito, Nicaragua
Italian	Mohawk, American Indian
Japanese	Mongolian, Lake Baikal
Japanese Kunten (Chinese Characters)	Mortlock Islands, Micronesia
Japanese (Roman)	Mpongwe, West Africa
Javanese	Muskogee, American Indian
Jolof, Africa	Musso, Shan States
Judaeo-Arabic	Nama, Africa
Judaeo-Persian	Nauru, Micronesia
Judaeo-Spanish	Navaho, American Indian
Kabyli, Africa	Negro-English
Kamu, Indo China	Nez Percés, American Indian
Karen (Sgau), Burma	Nguna-Efate, New Hebrides
Kongo, Africa	Norwegian
Korean (Eunmun)	Norwegian (Roman)
Korean (Mixed Script)	Nubian, Africa
K'Pelle, Africa	Ojibwa, American Indian
Kroo, Africa	Olunyore, Africa
Kurdish (Arabic Characters)	Pashto, Afghanistan
Kurdish (Armenian Characters)	Persian
Kurdish (Mukri)	Philippines—
Kurdish-Kurmanji	Bicol
Kusaien, Micronesia	Cebuan (Visayan)
Lapp, Swedish	Ibanag
Latin	Ifugao
Lettish	Igorot
Lithuanian	Ilocano
Luba-Lulua	Lanao Moro
Luragoli, Kavirondo-West Africa	Moro (Sulu)
Malagasy, Madagascar	Pampangan
Malay, High	Panayan, or Iloilo (Visayan)
Malay, Low	Pangasinan
Malay (Arabic Characters)	Samareño (Visayan)
Malay (Armenian Characters)	Zambal
Malay (Roman Characters)	Polish
Malay, Baba	Polish (Hebrew Character)
Malay-Kurmanji	Polish (Latin Character)
Malayalam	Ponape, Ascension Island
Maltese	Portuguese
Mandingo, Africa	Portuguese, Revised
Maori, New Zealand	Quechua, Bolivia
Mapudungu, Africa	Quechua, Ecuador
Marshall Islands, Micronesia	Quechua, Huanuco
	Quechua, Peru

Quiche, Guatemala	Swahili, Africa
Rarotonga	Swedish
Rifian, Morocco (Northern Shilha)	Syriac (Ancient)
Romansch, Lower Engadine	Syriac (Modern)
Romansch, Oberland	Tahiti, Polynesia
Roumanian	Tai Lu, Shan States, South China
Ruk, Caroline Islands	Tai Ngiu, Shan States, Burma
Russian	Tai Ya, N. E. Yunan
Ruthenian	Talaing or Peguan, Burma
Samoa	Temne, Sierra Leone
Scottish "Broad"	Tibetan
Sechuana, Africa	Tonga, East Africa
Seneca, American Indian	Tswa (Sheetswa), E. Africa
Serbian	Turkish (Arabic Characters)
Sesuto, South Africa	Turkish (Armenian Characters)
Shan, Shan States	Turkish, Gagauzi (Bulgarian Characters)
Shilha (Southern), Africa	Turkish (Greek Characters)
Shilluk or Shulla, Africa	Turkish (Latin Characters)
Siam—	Turkish-Transcaucasian
Siamese, or Tai Tai	Valiente, Central America
Laotian, East	Vejoz, Argentina
Laotian, West, or Tai Lao (Tai Yuan)	Welsh
Singhalese, Ceylon	Wolof or Jolof, West Africa
Slavonic	Yiddish
Slovak	Yoruba, Nigeria
Slovenian	Zapotec, Mexico
Spanish (Scio)	Zulu, Africa
Spanish (Valera)	

Embossed Scriptures for the Blind in Nineteen Languages and Systems

Arabic, Braille	English, Revised Braille, Grade 1½
Arabic, Moon	" Braille, Grade .2
Armenian, Braille	" Moon
Armeno-Turkish, Braille	French, Braille
Chinese, Canton Colloquial, Braille	Japanese, Braille
Chinese, Mandarin, Braille	Korean, New York Point
English, Boston Line Letter	Portuguese, Braille
" New York Point	Siamese, Braille
" New York Point Biphone	Spanish, Braille
" American Braille	Swedish, Braille

MISSIONARY TRANSLATORS OR REVISERS AIDED OR SUPPORTED BY THE SOCIETY

American Indians (North and South)

Ainslee, Rev. George.....	Nez Percés
Allan, Rev. George.....	Quechua, Bolivia
Alphonse, E. S.....	Valiente
Bradley, Rev. Amos.....	Quiché
Brink, Rev. L. P.....	Navaho
Buckner, Dr. H. F.....	Muskogee
Burgess, Rev. Paul.....	Quiché
Hall, Rev. Sherman.....	Ojibwa
Heath, Rev. Geo. R.....	Miskito
James, Dr. Edwin.....	Ojibwa
McDonald, Archdeacon Robert.....	"
Ramsay, Rev. J. R.....	Muskogee
Riggs, Rev. S. R.....	Dakota
Roberts, Rev. J.....	Arapahoe
Robertson, Mrs. A. E. W.....	Muskogee
Spalding, Rev. H. H.....	Nez Percés
Stucki, Rev. J.....	Winnebago
Torrey, Rev. C. C.....	Cherokee
Turner, Mrs. C. M.....	Quechua, Peru
Williamson, Rev. T. S.....	Dakota
Worcester, Rev. S. A.....	Cherokee
Wright, Rev. A.....	Choctaw, Seneca

Africa:

Bushnell, Rev. Albert.....	Mpongwe, Dikele
Dorward, Rev. Mr.....	Zulu
Frazer, Rev. M. E.....	Bulu
Good, Rev. A. C.....	"
Guthrie, Rev. Cuthbert B.....	Shulla
Kilbon, Rev. C. W.....	Zulu
Kramer, Mrs. H. C.....	Olunyore
Leonard, Rev. G. C.....	K'Pelle
McCleary, Rev. C. W.....	Bulu
Nauer, Rev. F. G.....	Benga
Ousley, Rev. Benjamin.....	Sheetswa
Payne, Rt. Rev. John.....	Grebo
Preston, Rev. I. M.....	Dikele
Rees, Rev. E. J.....	Luragoli
Richards, Rev. E. H.....	Tswa (Sheetswa)
"	Tonga

Rood, Rev. I.....	Zulu
Taylor, Rev. J. D.....	"
Vinson, Rev. T. C.....	Luba-Lulua
Wilcox, Rev. W. C.....	Zulu
Wilder, Rev. G. E.....	"
Wilson, Rev. D. A.....	Mpongwe

China:

Aiken, Rev. Dr. E. E.....	Mandarin, Union
Allan, Rev. C. N.....	" "
Baldwin, Rev. C. C.....	Fuchau Colloquial
Baldwin, Rev. S. L.....	" "
Baller, Rev. F. W.....	Mandarin, Union
Blodgett, Rev. H.....	" Easy Wenli
Boone, Bishop W. J.....	Shanghai Colloquial
Box, Rev. E.....	Shanghai Colloquial
Bramfitt, Rev. Thomas.....	Mandarin, Union
Brewster, Dr. W. N.....	Hinghua Colloquial
Bridgman, Dr. E. C.....	Wenli, Classical
Burdon, Rt. Rev. J. S.....	Mandarin, Easy Wenli
Burke, Rev. W. B.....	Shanghai Colloquial
Butler, Rev. John.....	Ningpo Colloquial
Chalmers, Rev. John.....	Wenli (Classical, Union)
Chestnut, Mrs. Eleanor, M.D.....	Sam Kiong Colloquial
Clayton, Rev. G. A.....	Mandarin (in Braille)
Culbertson, Rev. M. S.....	Wenli (Classical)
Davis, Rev. D. H.....	Shanghai Colloquial
Davis, Rev. John W.....	Easy Wenli, Union
Doolittle, Rev. J.....	Fuchau Colloquial
Edkins, Rev. Dr. Jos.....	Wenli (Classical, Union)
Farnham, Rev. Dr.....	Shanghai Colloq., Union
Fitch, Rev. G. F.....	Suchau Dialect
Gayley, Rev. S. R.....	Shanghai Colloquial
Genahr, Rev. I.....	Easy Wenli, Union
Gibson, Rev. J. G.....	Swatow, Easy Wenli, Union
Goodrich, Rev. C.....	Mandarin, Union
Graves, Rev. R. H.....	Canton Dialect, Easy Wenli, Union
Happer, Rev. Dr. A. P.....	Canton Colloquial
Hartwell, Rev. C.....	Fuchau Colloquial
Henry, Rev. Dr. B. C.....	Canton Colloquial
Hykes, Rev. Dr. J. R.....	Mandarin
Jenkins, Rev. Horace.....	Kinhwa Colloquial
Judd, Rev. C. H.....	Shantung Colloquial
Keith, Rev. C.....	Shanghai Colloquial
Lambert, Rev. J. W.....	Shanghai Colloquial
Lewis, Rev. Dr. Spencer.....	Mandarin, Union

Lloyd, Rev. Mr.....	Wenli (Classical) Union
Lore, Rev. E. C.....	Ningpo Colloquial
Lowrie, Mrs. R.....	Peking Colloquial
Lyon, Rev. D. N.....	Suchau Colloquial
McCartee, Rev. D. B.....	Ningpo Colloquial
McLay, Rev. R. S.....	Fuchau Colloquial
MacLagan, Rev. P. J.....	Wenli (Classical)
Martin, Rev. W. A. P.....	Mandarin
Mateer, Rev. C. W.....	Mandarin, Union
Muirhead, Rev. William.....	Shanghai Colloquial
Nagel, Rev. A.....	Wenli (Classical) Union
Nelson, Rev. Robt.....	Shanghai Colloquial
Nevius, Rev. J. L.....	Mandarin, Union
Noyes, Rev. Dr.....	Canton Colloquial
Ostrom, Rev. A.....	Amoy Colloquial
Owen, Rev. George.....	Mandarin, Union
Parker, Rev. A. P.....	Easy Wenli
Partch, Rev. G. E.....	Shanghai Colloquial
Pearce, Rev. T. W.....	Wenli (Classical) Union
Peet, Rev. L. B.....	Fuchau Colloquial
Preston, Rev. C. F.....	Canton Colloquial
Rankin, Rev. H. V.....	Ningpo Colloquial
Reid, Rev. C. F.....	Shanghai Colloquial
Russell, Rev. W. A.....	Ningpo Colloquial
Schaub, Rev. M.....	Wenli (Classical)
Schereschewski, Rt. Rev. S. I. J.....	Mandarin, Easy Wenli
Sheffield, Rev. D. Z.....	Wenli (Classical) Union
Silsby, Rev. J. A.....	Shanghai Colloquial
Smith, Rev. J. N. B.....	Shanghai Colloquial
Spaulding, Rev. P. D.....	Shanghai Colloquial
Stronch, Rev. J. A.....	Amoy Colloquial
Syle, Rev. E. W.....	Shanghai Colloquial
Talmadge, Rev. Dr. J. V. N.....	Amoy Colloquial
Tatum, Rev. E. F.....	Shanghai Colloquial
Thompson, Archdeacon E. H.....	" "
Ware, Rev. James.....	" "
Wherry, Rev. J.....	Wenli (Classical) Union
White, Rev. M. C.....	Fuchau Colloquial
Wolf, Rev. J. R.....	Fuchau Colloquial
Woodin, Rev. Dr. S. F.....	Fuchau Colloquial

Hawaii:

Andrews, Rev. L.....	Hawaiian
Bingham, Rev. Hiram.....	"
Bishop, Rev. A.....	"
Clark, Rev. E. W.....	"
Dibble, Rev. S.....	"

Green, Rev. J. S.....	Hawaiian
Richards, Rev. W.....	"
Thurston, Rev. A.....	"

India:

Ballantine, Rev. H.....	Marathi
Bate, Rev. J.....	Hindi
Bateman, Rev. R.....	Urdu
Chamberlain, Rev. Dr. Jacob.....	Telugu
Hall, Rev. Gordon.....	Marathi
Hay, Rev. J.....	Telugu
Janvier, Rev. L.....	Panjabi
Newell, Rev. Samuel.....	Marathi
Newton, Rev. E. P.....	Panjabi
Newton, Rev. John.....	"
Sutton, Rev. A.....	Uriya (Orissa)
Tracy, Rev. W.....	Tamil
Winslow, Rev. Dr. M.....	"

Japan:

Amerman, Rev. Dr. J. L.....	Japanese Colloquial
Batchelor, Rev. J.....	Ainu
Brown, Rev. S. R.....	Japanese
Davison, R. C. S.....	"
Foss, Rt. Rev. H. F.....	"
Fyson, Rt. Rev. P. K.....	"
Greene, Rev. D. C.....	"
Gutzlaff, Rev. Charles.....	"
Harrington, Rev. C. K.....	"
Hepburn, Dr. J. C.....	"
Learned, Rev. D. W.....	"
Maclay, Rev. R. S.....	"
Piper, Rev. John.....	"
Verbeck, Rev. Dr. G. F.....	"
Williams, Rt. Rev. D. C.....	Chino-Japanese

Korea:

Appenzeller, Rev. H. G.....	Korean
Gale, Rev. J. S.....	"
Jones, Rev. Dr. G. H.....	"
Moffet, Rev. S. A.....	"
Reynolds, Rev. W. B.....	"
Scranton, Dr. W. B.....	"
Trollope, Rev. M. N.....	"
Underwood, Rev. Dr. H. G.....	"

Micronesia:

Bingham, Rev. Dr. Hiram, Jr.....	Gilbert Islands
Delaporte, Rev. P. A.....	Nauru
Doane, Rev. E. T.....	Ebon (Marshall Islands)
“	Ponape
Gulick, Rev. L. H.....	“
Logan, Rev. R. W.....	Mortlock, Ruk
Pease, Rev. E. M.....	Ebon (Marshall Islands)
Pierson, Rev. G.....	“
Price, Rev. F. M.....	Ruk, Chamorro
Rife, Rev. C. W., M.D.....	Marshall Islands
Snow, Rev. B. G.....	Ebon (Marshall Islands)
“	Kusaie
Sturges, Rev. A. A.....	Ponape
Whitney, Rev. J. F.....	Ebon (Marshall Islands)

Philippines:

Conant, Mr. Carlos E.....	Pampangan
Goodrich, Rev. J. C.....	Ilocano
Hall, Mr. A. J.....	Samareño
Hanna, Rev. W. H.....	Ilocano
Lund, Rev. Eric.....	Visayan of Panay
MacDonald, Rev. K. P.....	Bicol
Munma, Rev. M. W.....	Ilocano
Peterson, Rev. B. O.....	“
Smith, Rev. Stephen L.....	Bicol
Widdoes, Rev. Dr. H. W.....	Ilocano
Williams, Rev. P. H.....	“

Siam:

Bradley, Rev. D. B.....	Siamese
Campbell, Rev. Howard.....	Tai Yuan or Lao
Carrington, Rev. John.....	Siamese
Crooks, Mrs. C. H.....	Kamu
Dunlap, Rev. E. P.....	Siamese
Eakin, Rev. Dr. J. A.....	“
Irwin, Rev. Robert.....	Laos
McClure, Rev. W. G.....	Siamese
McFarland, Rev. S. G.....	“
McGilvary, Mrs. Daniel.....	Laos
McGilvary, Rev. E. B.....	“
McKean, Dr. J. W.....	“
Mattoon, Rev. S.....	Siamese
Van Dyke, Rev. J. W.....	Siamese
Wilson, Rev. J.....	Laos

Turkey:

Adger, Rev. J. B.....	Armenian
Andrus, Rev. A. N.....	Kurdish
Christie, Rev. Dr. J.....	Hebrew-Spanish
Dwight, Rev. Dr. H. O.....	Turkish
Fossum, Rev. L. O.....	Kurdish (Mukri)
Goodell, Rev. W.....	Armeno-Turkish
Herrick, Rev. G. F.....	Turkish
Hoskins, Rev. F. E.....	Arabic
Labarree, Rev. Benjamin.....	Azerbaijan Turkish
Long, Rev. A. L.....	Bulgarian
Perkins, Rev. Justin.....	Syriac (Modern)
Pratt, Rev. A. T.....	Turkish
Riggs, Rev. Dr. Elias.....	Armenian, Bulgarian
“	Turkish
Riggs, Rev. H. H.....	Kurmanji-Kurdish
Schauffler, Rev. W. G.....	Hebrew-Spanish, Turkish
Smith, Rev. Eli.....	Arabic
Spence, Rev. D. B.....	Hebrew-Spanish
Van Dyck, Rev. Dr. C. V. A.....	Arabic
Weakley, Rev. R. H.....	Turkish
Wright, Rev. J. N.....	Azerbaijan Turkish

Miscellaneous:

Baez, Rev. D. B.....	Spanish
Brown, Rev. W. C.....	Portuguese
Diez, Rev. Francisco.....	Spanish
Drees, Rev. Charles W.....	“
Einspruch, Rev. Henry.....	Yiddish
Howland, Rev. John.....	Spanish
Kyle, Rev. J. M.....	Portuguese
Landsman, Rev. J. I.....	Yiddish
Pratt, Rev. H. B.....	Spanish
Smith, Rev. J. R.....	Portuguese
Stallybrass, Rev. E.....	Mongolian
Thomson, Rev. Dr. Henry C.....	Spanish

THE SOCIETY'S LIBRARY



THE accessions for the year ending December 31, 1928, show certain of our own publications printed in the United States, others from our presses in foreign lands, and also Scriptures received from other Societies, and various volumes added to the Library for the current use of the Society.

ACCESSIONS TO THE SOCIETY'S LIBRARY

I. Publications from the Society's Press at the Bible House

Holy Bible, 31st ed.	American Bible Society, New York, 1854
Nouveau Testament, 1st ed.	American Bible Society, New York, 1826
Corinthians-Revelation	American Bible Society, New York, 1927
Corinthians-Colossians in Olunyore	American Bible Society, New York, 1926
Mark in Olunyore	American Bible Society, New York, 1927
Novo Testamento (Portuguese) ..	American Bible Society, New York, 1921
Neue Testament (German)	American Bible Society, New York, 1901
Holy Bible	American Bible Society, New York, 1901
Libro de los Proverbios de Salomon,	American Bible Society, New York, 1910
New Testament and Psalms.	American Bible Society, New York, 1911
New Testament	American Bible Society, New York, 1902
Genesis. American Braille.	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Exodus-Leviticus. American Braille,	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Numbers-Deuteronomy. American Braille,	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Joshua-Ruth. American Braille.	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
I and II Samuel. American Braille,	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
I and II Kings. American Braille,	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
I and II Chronicles. American Braille,	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Ezra-Job. American Braille	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Psalms. American Braille	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Proverbs-Song of Solomon. American Braille,	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Isaiah. American Braille	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Jeremiah. American Braille	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Lamentations-Ezekiel. American Braille,	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Daniel-Malachi. American Braille,	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Matthew-Mark. American Braille,	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Luke-John. American Braille.	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Acts-Romans. American Braille.	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.

- I Corinthians-Titus. American Braille,
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II. Publications from the Society's Press in Foreign Lands

- Bible in Hawaiian.....American Bible Society, Honolulu, 1843
 Exodus in PampanganAmerican Bible Society, Manila, 1927
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 Matthew in BicolAmerican Bible Society, Manila, 1927
 Mark in Bicol.....American Bible Society, Manila, 1927
 Luke in BicolAmerican Bible Society, Manila, 1927
 John in BicolAmerican Bible Society, Manila, 1927
 Acts in BicolAmerican Bible Society, Manila, 1927
 Matthew in Visayan, Cebuan dialect.....American Bible Society, Manila, 1928
 Mark in Visayan, Cebuan dialect....American Bible Society, Manila, 1928
 Luke in Visayan, Cebuan dialect....American Bible Society, Manila, 1928
 John in Visayan, Cebuan dialect....American Bible Society, Manila, 1928
 Acts in Visayan, Cebuan dialect....American Bible Society, Manila, 1928
 New Testament in IlocanoAmerican Bible Society, Manila, 1927
 New Testament in IlocanoAmerican Bible Society, Manila, 1927
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 Luke in LaoAmerican Bible Society, Bangkok, 1923
 Acts in Siamese, new versionAmerican Bible Society, Bangkok, 1927
 Genesis in Siamese, new version....American Bible Society, Bangkok, 1927
 Romans in Siamese, new version....American Bible Society, Bangkok, 1927
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 Matthew in SiameseAmerican Bible Society, Bangkok, 1927
 Luke in SiameseAmerican Bible Society, Bangkok, 1927
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 Acts in Siamese (from plates) 13th ed.,
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 Ruth in Siamese, 20th ed.....American Bible Society, Bangkok, 1927
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 Luke in Tailu, 3d ed.American Bible Society, Bangkok, 1927
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 New Testament in Kunama,
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 Holy Bible in Xosa, Union Version,
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 John in BurumBritish and Foreign Bible Society, London, 1928
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 Mark in Jukun, Kona dialect,
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 Luke in Jieng, White Nile dialect,
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 Mark in RuandaBritish and Foreign Bible Society, London, 1927
 New Testament and Psalms in Chokwe,
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 Corinthians in Baki, New Hebrides,
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 Matthew in Lugbara. (Tentative ed.),
 British and Foreign Bible Society, London, 1928
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 British and Foreign Bible Society, London, 1928
 Luke in Tubetube. (Tentative ed.),
 British and Foreign Bible Society, London, 1928
 Mark in Moru. (Tentative ed.),
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Matthew. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, 1909
Mark. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, 1909
Luke. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, 1909
Luke. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, 1909
John. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, 1909
John. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, 1909
Acts. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, 1909
Acts. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, 1909
Romans. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, 1909
Corinthians. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, 1909
Galatians-Philemon. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, 1909
Galatians-Philemon. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, 1909
Hebrews-Jude. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, 1909
Revelation. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, 1909
Genesis. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, 1909
Genesis. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, 1909
Exodus. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, 1909
Exodus. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Leviticus. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Leviticus. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Numbers. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Numbers. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Deuteronomy. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Deuteronomy. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Joshua. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Judges. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
I Samuel. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
I Samuel. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
II Samuel. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
II Samuel. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
I Kings. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
I Kings. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
II Kings. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
II Kings. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
I Chronicles. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
I Chronicles. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
II Chronicles. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
II Chronicles. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Ezra and Esther. Moon.....	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Job. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Psalms. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Psalms. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Psalms. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Proverbs. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Isaiah. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Isaiah. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Jeremiah. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Jeremiah. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Jeremiah. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Ruth and Lamentations. Moon....	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Ezekiel. Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.

Ezekiel.	Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Ezekiel.	Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Daniel.	Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Hosea to Obadiah.	Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Jonah to Malachi.	Moon	Nat. Inst. for the Blind, London, n. d.
Genesis.	Braille	British and Foreign Bible Society, London, n. d.
Genesis.	Braille	British and Foreign Bible Society, London, n. d.
Exodus.	Braille	British and Foreign Bible Society, London, n. d.
Exodus.	Braille	British and Foreign Bible Society, London, n. d.
Leviticus.	Braille	British and Foreign Bible Society, London, n. d.
Numbers.	Braille	British and Foreign Bible Society, London, n. d.
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ISSUES

Bibles, Testaments and Portions Issued in Each Year since Its Organization

Year	Bibles	Test's, etc.	Total	Year	Bibles	Test's, etc.	Total
1st	6,410	.....	6,410	58th	317,365	673,207	990,572
2d	17,594	.....	17,594	59th	281,703	645,197	926,900
3d	23,870	7,248	31,118	60th	269,303	581,167	850,470
4th	26,800	14,713	41,513	61st	239,546	641,510	881,056
5th	26,772	16,474	43,246	62d	297,452	560,041	857,493
6th	28,910	24,560	53,470	63d	343,902	843,952	1,187,854
7th	28,448	26,357	54,805	64th	394,545	961,494	1,356,039
8th	31,590	28,849	60,439	65th	422,208	1,052,395	1,474,603
9th	30,094	33,757	63,851	66th	371,728	1,153,045	1,524,773
10th	31,154	35,980	67,134	67th	438,063	1,238,169	1,676,232
11th	35,876	35,745	71,621	68th	499,379	1,308,836	1,808,215
12th	75,734	58,873	134,607	69th	429,716	1,118,459	1,548,175
13th	91,248	108,874	200,122	70th	369,714	1,067,726	1,437,440
14th	130,254	108,329	238,583	71st	391,865	1,055,405	1,447,270
15th	171,972	70,211	242,183	72d	420,242	1,084,405	1,504,647
16th	54,843	60,959	115,802	73d	410,282	1,030,173	1,440,455
17th	36,941	54,227	91,168	74th	412,862	1,083,195	1,496,057
18th	34,083	76,749	110,832	75th	450,180	1,047,457	1,497,637
19th	47,709	75,527	123,236	76th	411,618	886,578	1,298,196
20th	65,974	155,720	221,694	77th	410,093	984,770	1,394,863
21st	51,354	154,886	206,240	78th	400,176	1,047,483	1,447,659
22d	45,083	113,215	158,298	79th	403,434	1,177,694	1,581,128
23d	45,333	89,604	134,937	80th	391,437	1,358,846	1,750,283
24th	54,227	103,034	157,261	81st	317,472	1,196,027	1,513,499
25th	64,304	87,898	152,202	82d	252,530	1,109,743	1,362,273
26th	101,416	155,650	257,066	83d	194,564	1,186,328	1,380,892
27th	82,912	133,693	216,605	84th	215,426	1,191,375	1,406,801
28th	114,766	199,816	314,582	85th	238,081	1,316,047	1,554,128
29th	145,970	283,122	429,092	86th	283,288	1,440,503	1,723,791
30th	161,974	321,899	483,873	87th	302,121	1,691,437	1,993,558
31st	209,416	418,348	627,764	88th	304,952	1,465,939	1,770,891
32d	232,272	422,794	655,066	89th	290,847	1,540,249	1,831,096
33d	205,307	359,419	564,726	90th	274,185	1,962,574	2,236,759
34th	205,037	428,358	633,395	91st	272,077	1,638,776	1,910,853
35th	209,821	382,611	592,432	92d	262,518	1,633,423	1,895,941
36th	221,450	444,565	666,015	93d	312,922	1,840,106	2,153,028
37th	260,381	538,999	799,380	94th	327,636	2,499,195	2,826,831
38th	277,584	537,815	815,399	95th	393,230	2,838,492	3,231,722
39th	256,087	493,809	749,896	96th	430,098	3,261,103	3,691,201
40th	240,776	427,489	668,265	97th	399,734	3,649,876	4,049,610
41st	258,846	511,211	770,057	98th	412,229	4,838,947	5,251,176
42d	260,997	451,048	712,045	99th	352,469	6,053,854	6,406,323
43d	269,826	451,269	721,095	100th	383,824	7,377,553	7,761,377
44th	267,466	486,306	753,772	101st	274,118	5,330,650	5,604,768
45th	295,858	426,020	721,878	102d	244,515	4,574,049	4,818,564
46th	161,374	932,468	1,093,842	103d	235,780	5,804,927	6,040,707
47th	175,554	1,083,563	1,259,117	104th	354,387	3,397,922	3,752,309
48th	238,063	1,262,501	1,500,564	105th	331,757	3,493,644	3,825,401
49th	239,097	1,591,659	1,830,756	106th	375,495	4,485,686	4,861,181
50th	256,498	894,030	1,150,528	107th	442,869	4,120,198	4,563,067
51st	324,215	933,745	1,257,960	108th	423,611	6,677,678	7,101,289
52d	315,525	871,669	1,187,194	109th	392,798	6,259,501	6,652,299
53d	339,595	1,047,016	1,386,611	110th	375,202	8,839,221	9,214,423
54th	329,774	1,000,866	1,330,640	111th	359,989	9,547,372	9,907,361
55th	316,857	790,870	1,107,727	112th	323,283	9,711,514	10,034,797
56th	298,352	802,519	1,100,871	113th	305,019	10,727,475	11,032,494
57th	313,714	887,531	1,201,245	Total	28,279,196	176,817,055	205,096,251

FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETIES AND THEIR CIRCULATION FOR 1928



INCOMPLETE success must be reported another year in our effort to record the circulation of Foreign Bible Societies. The notes below will show which of the statistics presented are up to date. They give some impression of the number of volumes of Scriptures being annually issued by Bible Societies in America and Europe:

Great Britain

	1928
British and Foreign Bible Society (1804).....	11,299,540
National Bible Society of Scotland (1861).....	4,134,440
Scripture Gift Mission	2,592,299

France

Bible Society of France (1864).....	†32,369
Protestant Bible Society of Paris (1818).....	†10,287

Holland

Netherlands Bible Society (1815).....	*173,897
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Denmark

Danish Bible Society	54,135
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Norway

Norwegian Bible Society (1815).....	*62,563
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Sweden

Swedish Bible Society (1809).....	†25,510
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Germany

Baden Bible Society, Karlsruhe.....	†23,180
Bavarian (or Central) Bible Society of Nuremberg (1823).....	†7,976
Bergische Bible Society, Elberfeld (1814).....	*91,474
Canstein Bible Institution of Halle (1712).....	§36,691
Prussian Bible Society (1814; as Berlin Bible Soc., 1806).....	†123,500
Saxony Bible Society (1814).....	†22,280
Wurttemberg Bible Institution (1812).....	652,147

Switzerland

Basel Bible Society (1804).....	†2,509
Canton of Vaud	*3,825

* 1927. † 1926. ‡ 1925. § 1923.

APPROPRIATIONS AND ESTIMATES FOR 1929



OTH the appropriation year and the calendar year are the same with the financial year of the Society. The following expenditures have been authorized by the Board of Managers of the Society for the year 1929:

For the Home Agencies, \$155,906, to be divided as below;

For the Foreign Agencies, \$492,649, to be divided as below (\$285,300 is the cash appropriation from America, and \$207,349 the estimated receipts from sales of Scriptures, church collections, and individual gifts in those lands, which are not forwarded to the Bible House in New York as they are in the case of the ten Home Agencies, but are retained on the field as an addition to the appropriations);

For the miscellaneous grants of Scriptures and emergency items in the home field, \$39,000.

To meet emergencies connected with Foreign Agencies and the miscellaneous grants in funds and books to fields in Europe, Africa, and Asia, where the Society has no regular Agencies, \$25,900.

For contingencies under general distribution, \$1,000;

For the translation and revision of the Scriptures, largely for foreign lands, \$6,000;

For plates of new versions, \$10,000;

For the manufacture of Scriptures at the Bible House in New York, \$390,000—(These books are used chiefly in the Home Agencies of the Society and really are a supplement to their appropriation. Books are also sent from the Bible House to Latin-American countries, where they are included in the appropriations to the Agencies);

For the administrative and office expenses, which include the salaries of the officers, the clerical force

at the Bible House, and all the cost of leaflets, the *Bible Society Record*, the ANNUAL REPORT, postage, traveling expenses, etc., \$175,394.

The above Appropriations and Estimates total \$1,295,849.

HOME APPROPRIATIONS

Agency among the Colored People of the United States

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency..	\$23,600
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Eastern Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency..	\$10,670
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Atlantic Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency..	\$18,600
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National Capital Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency..	\$3,000
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South Atlantic Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency..	\$15,600
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Central Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency..	\$15,900
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Northwestern Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency..	\$20,925
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Southwestern Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency..	\$15,600
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Western Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency..	\$15,600
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Pacific Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency..	\$15,600
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TOTAL HOME AGENCIES

Colored People Agency	\$23,600
Eastern Agency	10,670
Atlantic Agency	18,600
National Capital Agency.....	3,000
South Atlantic Agency	15,600
Central Agency	15,900
Northwestern Agency	20,925
Southwestern Agency	15,600
Western Agency	15,600
Pacific Agency	15,600
Contingent	811
	\$155,906

FOREIGN APPROPRIATIONS

West Indies Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository rentals and salaries, traveling expenses, duties, colporteurs' wages and expenses, grants in books and incidentals, and books sent from New York and purchased, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and collections... \$31,600

Mexico Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository rentals and salaries, traveling expenses, transportation, duties, commissions, colporteurs' wages and expenses, grants in books, incidentals, and books sent from New York and purchased, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and contributions..... \$34,080

Caribbean Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository and expenses, customs, freight and storage, traveling expenses, colporteurs' wages and expenses, incidentals, grants in books, and books from New York or purchased, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and collections.. \$29,000

Upper Andes Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository expenses, customhouse charges, freight and storage, traveling expenses, colporteurs' wages and expenses, grants in books, incidentals, and books sent from New York and purchased, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and contributions \$23,800

La Plata Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository expenses, customhouse charges, freight and storage, traveling expenses, colporteurs' wages and expenses, grants in books, translation, incidentals, and books sent from New York and purchased, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and contributions.. \$42,060

Brazil Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary and house rent, depository, attendance, customs, freight, storage, traveling expenses, colporteurs' wages and expenses, translation, incidentals, grants in books and books sent from New York and purchased, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and contributions..... \$40,400

Levant Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository and office expenses, purchase and customhouse charges, translation, manufacture and purchase of Scriptures, freight and storage, colporteurs' wages and expenses, superintendence, insurance, rent, postage, stationery, traveling expenses, exchange, and grants in books and in funds, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and contributions..... \$35,150

Arabic-Levant Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository and office expenses, purchase and customhouse charges, translation, manufacture and purchase of Scriptures, freight and storage, colporteurs' wages and expenses, superintendence, insurance, rent, postage, stationery, traveling expenses, exchange, and grants in books and in funds, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and contributions..... \$43,305

Philippines Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository and expenses, translation work, manufacture and purchase of Scriptures, freight, duty, cartage, colporteurs' wages and expenses, traveling expenses of agent, incidentals, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and collections \$33,250

Siam Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary and house rent, translation, manufacture and purchase of Scriptures, freight, shipping, colporteurs' wages and expenses, traveling expenses, rent, storage, incidentals, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and collections..... \$15,681

China Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary and house rent, translation work, purchase and manufacture of Scriptures, freight, storage, plates, superintendence of colportage, salaries and expenses, colporteurs' wages and expenses, depository and expenses, traveling expenses, incidentals, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and contributions. \$93,873

Japan Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository and office expenses, translation, manufacture and purchase of Scriptures, freight, storage, colporteurs' wages and expenses, insurance, traveling expenses, grants in books, etc., estimated receipts from sales retained on the field and contributions	\$70,450
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TOTAL FOREIGN AGENCIES

West Indies	\$31,600
Mexico	34,080
Caribbean	29,000
Upper Andes	23,800
La Plata	42,060
Brazil	40,400
Levant	35,150
Arabic-Levant	43,305
Philippines	33,250
Siam	15,681
China	93,873
Japan	70,450
	\$492,649

HOME SPECIALS

Special grants not through Agencies, and Home Agency emergency expenses	\$39,000
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FOREIGN SPECIALS

Grants to missionary societies and other workers not laboring in the fields of our regular Foreign Agencies (estimated) and furlough and emergency expenses	\$25,900
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TRANSLATION AND REVISION

Estimated for translation and revision work in progress or in the plans for the year, not included in the appropriations to Foreign Agencies—Chinese, Japanese, Portuguese, Yiddish, Slovak, North American Indian, Philippine, Micronesian, and African languages.....	\$6,000
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PLATES OF NEW VERSIONS

Estimated for the preparation of plates of Scriptures in Versions newly made and revised	\$10,000
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MANUFACTURE

Manufacture and purchase of Scriptures at the Bible House in New York City (covered in large measure by receipts from sales)....	\$390,000
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ADMINISTRATIVE AND MISCELLANEOUS**EXPENDITURES (Estimated)**

Administrative and office expenses, including salaries of the officers, clerical force of the Bible House, traveling expenses, cost of reports, leaflets, and <i>Bible Society Record</i> , postage, telephone, sundries, and Bibles for Life Members.....	\$175,394
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SUMMARY

Home Agencies	\$155,906
Foreign Agencies	492,649
Home Specials	39,000
Foreign Specials	25,900
Contingent	1,000
Translation, etc.	6,000
Plates of New Versions....	10,000
Manufacture, etc.	390,000
Administrative and Miscellaneous Expenditures (Estimated).....	175,394
Aggregate	\$1,295,849

TREASURER'S REPORT



HEREWITH are given exhibits of the transactions of the Society for the year ending December 31, 1928. The work of publishing and handling the Scriptures at the Bible House in New York City has been treated as a Separate Agency, under the title of "The Home Office."

First is presented a balance sheet showing the assets and liabilities of the Society. Exhibit "B" is a "Surplus Account," showing the balance that would be left if the Society had closed up business and discharged all of its trusts on the 31st of December, 1928. Exhibit "C" is a condensed statement of the income account for the year showing the income and expenditures. Exhibit "D" gathers up the important items of each of the Foreign Agencies of the Society in a condensed balance sheet, which is amplified in Exhibit "E." Exhibit "F" is a consolidated balance sheet of Home Agencies, amplified in Exhibit "G." Exhibit "H" is an analysis of the manufacturing costs, based on a new system of cost finding introduced in 1922. Wherever the term "Headquarters" is used in these exhibits, it refers to the general activities of the American Bible Society as apart from the Domestic and Foreign Agencies and the manufacturing, distributing, and selling departments of the Home Office of the Society at the Bible House in New York.

Following these tables, there is presented the Income from Trust Funds, the List of Contributions, and the Remittances from Bible Societies.

EXHIBIT A — BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

Trust Fund Investments:

General Trust Fund Investments—

Investments	\$2,141,811.67
Uninvested Cash	4,559.89

Total Trust Fund Investments...	\$2,146,371.56
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Alexander Campbell Trust Fund Investments

Investments	48,051.09
Uninvested Cash	26.79

Total Alexander Campbell Trust Fund Investments	48,077.88
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Total Trust Fund Investments ..	\$2,194,449.44
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Annuity Fund Investments:

Investments	3,337,577.25
Uninvested Cash	36,499.68

Total Annuity Fund Investments	3,374,076.93
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Other Investments:

Publication Department Reserve Fund Investments	117,932.50
Margaret O. Sage Legacy Fund Investments	179,889.00
Legacy Equalization Fund Investments	155,381.50
Charlesanna L. Huston Legacy Fund Investments	63,065.00
Pension Fund Investments	2,500.00
Miscellaneous Investments	11,401.90
Uninvested Cash	49,583.03

Total Other Investments	579,752.93
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Real Estate and Equipment:

Bible House, New York City	499,110.40
Bible House, Cristobal, Canal Zone ..	49,789.00
Bible House, Pekin, China, and other property in China	60,470.35
Bible House, Manila, P. I.	14,606.96
General Equipment, New York City..	7,688.07

Total Real Estate and Equipment	631,664.78
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Current Assets:

Cash	7,560.68
Accounts Receivable	4,952.25

Total Current Assets	12,512.93
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Agency Accounts:

Total Assets Foreign Agencies, per Exhibit "D"	309,746.42
Total Assets Home Agencies, per Exhibit "F"	702,499.14
Cash and Scriptures in transit, net ..	55,736.50

Total	1,067,982.06
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Deduct Accounts Payable	119,457.66
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Total Assets All Agencies	948,524.40
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Deferred Assets:

Paid-up Insurance Policy	1,000.00
Unexpired Insurance	4,442.10

Total Deferred	5,442.10
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Total Assets	\$7,746,423.51
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LIABILITIES

Permanent Trust Funds:

Income for general purposes	\$1,707,639.39
Income for specific purposes	349,005.71

Total Permanent Trust Funds ... \$2,056,645.10

Trust Funds Created by Board of Managers:

Income for general purposes	30,067.46
Income for specific purposes	22,050.00

Total Trust Funds Created by Board of Managers 52,117.46

Alexander Campbell Trust Fund 48,077.88

Trust Funds—Subject to Life Interest ... 37,609.00

Total Trust Funds \$2,194,449.44

Annuity Funds:

Annuity Donations	3,327,074.95
Annuity Equalization Fund	47,001.98

Total Annuity Funds 3,374,076.93

Unexpended Funds held for Specific Purposes:

Margaret O. Sage Legacy Fund	340,052.88
Legacy Equalization Fund	172,567.61
Charlesanna L. Huston Legacy Fund	66,484.85
Japan Earthquake Fund	6,955.60
Pension Fund	5,030.55
Funds Received for Transmission	600.00
Blind Fund	1,152.62
Reserve for Unexpended 1928 Appropriation	4,425.06

Total Unexpended Funds held for Specific Purposes 597,269.17

Foreign Drafts Outstanding 30,953.93

Maryland Bible Society, Funds for Pekin Bible House 31,960.00

Surplus, per Exhibit "B" 1,517,714.04

Total Liabilities

\$7,746,423.51

EXHIBIT B — SURPLUS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1928

Balance, December 31, 1927		\$1,519,701.00
Add:		
Transfer from Margaret O. Sage Legacy Fund—Authorized by Board of Managers February 2, 1928—To pay off debt	\$30,000.00	
Increase in inventory value of Scriptures	3,947.32	
Adjustment of Brazil Agency account	600.00	
Scriptures recovered—Siam Agency	869.98	
Sundry prior period adjustments and refunds	219.44	
Total Additions		35,636.74
		<u>\$1,555,337.74</u>
Deduct:		
Excess of Expenses over Income for year 1928, per Exhibit "C"	\$35,623.70	
Reserve for Plates for Siam Agency	2,000.00	
Total Deductions		37,623.70
Balance, December 31, 1928, per Exhibit "A"		<u><u>\$1,517,714.04</u></u>

EXHIBIT C — HEADQUARTERS INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1928

Income from Trust Funds.....	\$109,440.27	Brought forward	\$638,767.17
Income from Available Investments	10,789.64	General Expenses:	
Income from Annuity Funds:		General Salaries and Expenses	66,040.04
Income from Investments	162,165.89	Treasurer's Office, salaries and expenses..	17,781.17
Unit Bonds terminated	109,483.88	Appeals	26,587.45
Gain on sale of Annuity Investments	69.38	Bible Society Record	12,443.13
Adjustments of Annuity Payments	2,329.00	Diffusion of Information	38,611.47
	274,048.15	Library expenses	2,020.86
Less Annuity paid and Expenses	234,511.94	Broadcasting	710.00
	39,536.21	Translation and Revision	7,627.38
Less Transfer to Annuity Reserve Fund..	14,536.21	Plates of new versions	6,339.46
		Miscellaneous, extraordinary Home Agen-	
Net Income from Annuity Funds	25,000.00	cies	4,225.17
Legacies:		Miscellaneous, extraordinary Foreign Agen-	
Transferred from Legacy Equalization Fund	70,975.03	cies	8,826.06
	4,024.97	Total General Expenses	191,212.19
Total Legacies per Budget	75,000.00	Donations:	
Less Legacy Expenses in Treasurer's Office	1,214.98	Grants to Missionary and other Societies...	9,009.25
		Scriptures donated	12,714.02
Net Income from Legacies	73,785.02	Scriptures to Life Members	97.50
Gifts:		Reduction in sale price of five-cent Testa-	
Gifts from Churches	\$203,180.27	ments	2,209.00
Gifts from Auxiliaries and Bible Societies	7,233.57	Total Donations	24,029.77
Gifts from Individuals	155,574.37	Total Charges and Other Deductions from	
Returns from Scriptures donated	3,738.69	Income, Headquarters	215,241.96
Mississippi Flood Fund donations	432.83	Excess of Income over Income Charges,	
Total Gifts	\$370,159.13	Headquarters	423,525.21
Less:		Excess of Expenses over Income, Foreign	
Payments to Auxiliary Bible Societies..	8,393.21	Agencies, per Exhibit "E"	312,313.94
Church Budget Costs	1,899.88	Excess of Expenses over Income, Home Agen-	
	10,293.09	cies, per Exhibit "G"	146,834.97
Net Income from Gifts	359,866.04	Total Excess of Expenses over Income,	
Income for Scriptures to the Blind:		all Agencies	459,148.91
Income from J. Burr Legacy	2,176.93	Excess of Expenses over Income, per Exhibit	
Income from other Funds for Blind.....	60.29	"B"	\$ 35,623.70
Gifts from Churches, Individuals and			
Legacies	7,391.00		
Total Income from Gifts	9,628.22		
Less:			
Scriptures donated to the Blind in 1927			
.....	152.61		
Scriptures donated to Blind in 1928....	6,723.02		
Work on plates, transportation and			
expenses	1,599.97		
Total Scriptures donated and Ex-			
penses	8,475.60		
Amount transferred to Fund for Scrip-			
tures to the Blind	1,152.62		
	9,628.22		
Bible House Rentals:			
Gross Rentals	\$133,846.07		
Expense, repairs, taxes, etc.	\$72,955.32		
Refunding of Improvements to Bible House	15,890.75		
Income from Bible House Rentals....	45,000.00		
Miscellaneous Income	225.45		
Discounts and Allowances charged under Ex-			
hibit "G" refunded by Publication			
Department	14,660.75		
Total Income	\$638,767.17		

EXHIBIT D—CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET OF FOREIGN AGENCIES, AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1928

	Brazil	Libyan	China	Japan	La Plata	Arabic Levant	Levant	Mexico	Philippines	Siam	Upper Andes	West Indies	Total
ASSETS:													
Cash	\$ 5,213.46	\$ 2,734.79	\$ 8,589.29	\$ 443.94	\$ 852.39	\$ 3,178.60	\$11,894.19	\$ 3,017.23	\$ 469.99	\$ 6,367.97	\$ 554.20	\$ 90.29	\$ 43,406.34
Inventory of Scriptures	5,368.93	12,589.87	27,452.45	20,097.70	10,335.17	20,625.46	15,964.59	7,423.05	9,154.21	4,589.28	7,604.79	720.54	141,926.04
Manufacturing Materials			8,487.05	16,669.03	2,663.51	12,588.94	19,998.30		12,749.18	968.94			74,125.95
Accounts Receivable	1,091.08	3,445.05	2,897.22	3,700.79		1,094.15	5,759.59		4,686.73	1,791.29	868.03	1,256.00	26,589.93
Furniture and Fixtures	761.06		170.40	4,196.26		2,862.14	1,098.00		8,627.74	844.31	204.70		18,764.61
Property			2,897.45						2,036.10				4,933.55
Total Assets	\$12,434.53	\$18,769.71	\$50,493.86	\$45,107.72	\$13,851.07	\$40,350.29	\$54,714.67	\$10,440.28	\$37,723.95	\$14,561.79	\$9,231.72	\$2,066.83	\$309,746.42
LIABILITIES:													
Accounts Payable		\$ 70.46	\$ 2,767.37	\$ 2,000.00		\$ 4,139.88	\$ 1,225.67	\$ 234.87	\$ 5,191.67	\$ 6,983.60			\$ 22,613.52
Headquarters	\$14,093.60	\$21,488.02	\$75,759.48	\$46,242.66	\$13,625.95	\$37,680.13	\$54,012.09	\$10,629.63	\$35,710.12	\$ 4,798.33	\$ 9,857.24	\$ 3,454.23	\$327,351.54
salary	9,057.10	6,936.51	46,557.75	20,687.97	7,897.72	31,873.33	26,354.42	6,675.73	22,289.37	15,355.74	11,573.59	9,283.21	214,542.44
received from Headquarters	9,914.74	8,883.73	270.68	1,754.02	11,658.37	13.50		9,332.26	622.73	28.54	4,026.41	8,563.50	55,068.48
Levant Agency		72.68		2.68	2,619.49		402.58			869.98	402.30		5,069.71
Scriptures supplied						1,200.00							1,200.00
ers and other Agencies			1,695.69						1,261.24				2,956.93
			1,288.16										1,288.16
Total Credits	\$33,065.50	\$38,080.94	\$125,571.76	\$68,687.33	\$35,801.53	\$70,766.96	\$80,769.09	\$26,637.62	\$59,883.46	\$21,052.59	\$25,859.54	\$21,300.94	\$607,477.26
sent to Headquarters	\$ 402.00		\$ 425.00	\$ 141.99						\$ 75.00		\$ 209.20	\$ 1,253.19
to Headquarters			695.55			\$ 573.33	\$ 515.65		\$ 1,224.28	2.18		29.03	3,040.02
enses over Income, per	20,228.97	\$19,381.69	74,436.42	25,421.86	\$21,898.15	33,802.38	25,564.44	\$16,432.21	26,126.90	13,397.22	\$16,627.82	18,995.88	312,313.94
			1,288.16										1,288.16
			1,000.14										1,000.14
				15.76	52.31	180.84							248.91
							1,200.00						1,200.00
Total Debits	\$20,630.97	\$19,381.69	\$ 77,845.27	\$25,579.61	\$21,950.46	\$34,556.55	\$27,280.09	\$16,432.21	\$27,351.18	\$13,474.40	\$16,627.82	\$19,234.11	\$320,344.36
	\$12,434.53	\$18,699.25	\$47,726.49	\$43,107.72	\$13,851.07	\$36,210.41	\$53,489.00	\$10,205.41	\$32,532.28	\$ 7,578.19	\$9,231.72	\$2,066.83	\$287,132.90
Total Liabilities	\$12,434.53	\$18,769.71	\$50,493.86	\$45,107.72	\$13,851.07	\$40,350.29	\$54,714.67	\$10,440.28	\$37,723.95	\$14,561.79	\$9,231.72	\$2,066.83	\$309,746.42

EXHIBIT E — COMBINED INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF FOREIGN AGENCIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1928

	Brazil	Caribbean	China	Japan	La Plata	Arabic Levant	Levant	Mexico	Philippines	Siam	Upper Andes	West Indies	Total
Sales:													
By correspondents	\$ 2,532.37	\$ 1,722.02	\$17,137.83	\$38,654.31	\$ 2,329.50	\$ 7,914.86	\$ 4,277.61	\$ 1,125.70	\$ 152.80			\$ 639.02	\$ 76,486.02
By other means	8,026.74	6,366.74	13,332.95	2,800.75	8,536.15	1,043.56	5,509.12	7,431.41	17.80	\$ 1,421.04		3,121.40	57,607.66
	4,835.98	4,288.42	641.22	5,549.46	11,460.87	6,194.20	4,890.85	5,275.28	2,290.74	300.11	5,144.37	4,647.16	55,518.66
Total Sales	\$15,395.09	\$12,377.18	\$31,112.00	\$44,203.77	\$16,591.12	\$22,645.21	\$10,212.02	\$10,784.40	\$10,847.85	\$ 470.71	\$ 6,565.41	\$ 8,407.58	\$189,612.34
Gifts:													
From Churches	\$ 463.80	\$ 229.91	\$ 165.05	\$ 42.37	\$ 588.20	\$ 665.84	\$ 123.63	\$ 664.77	\$ 42.72	\$ 140.96	\$ 127.75	\$ 1,090.95	\$ 4,345.95
From Individuals		158.25	168.63	5.00	6,185.94	21.50	1.44	174.57	3.49	111.90	172.28	208.30	7,211.30
Total Gifts	\$ 463.80	\$ 388.16	\$ 333.68	\$ 47.37	\$ 6,774.14	\$ 687.34	\$ 125.07	\$ 839.34	\$ 46.21	\$ 252.86	\$ 300.03	\$ 1,299.25	\$ 11,557.25
Exchange		\$ 32.91	\$ 306.14	\$ 979.04				\$ 134.08	\$ 44.88				\$ 1,497.05
Losses Recovered										\$ 20.97			20.97
Returns from Scriptures Donated							\$ 11.28			67.25			78.53
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 15.40		626.65	42.29		\$ 153.75	218.89	12.36	33.71	29.08	\$ 19.66		1,151.79
Total Income	\$15,874.29	\$12,798.25	\$32,378.47	\$45,272.47	\$23,365.26	\$23,486.30	\$10,567.26	\$11,770.18	\$10,972.65	\$ 840.87	\$ 6,885.10	\$ 9,706.83	\$203,917.93
EXPENSES:													
Cost of Scriptures Sold:													
Inventory beginning of period	\$ 8,880.82	\$15,809.05	\$34,422.92	\$18,321.43	\$ 9,848.11	\$21,016.00	\$17,458.76	\$10,618.48	\$ 9,238.45	\$ 5,577.77	\$ 9,094.49	\$ 1,055.38	\$161,341.66
Add—Adjustment of Inventory	1.00	772.68	1,839.84	158.45	2,619.49	615.71	898.62			869.98	402.30		8,178.07
Adjusted Inventory	\$ 8,881.82	\$16,581.73	\$36,262.76	\$18,479.88	\$12,467.60	\$21,631.71	\$18,357.38	\$10,618.48	\$ 9,238.45	\$ 6,447.75	\$ 9,496.79	\$ 1,055.38	\$169,519.73
Received from Headquarters	9,913.74	8,462.20	255.99	1,754.02	11,658.37	152.50		8,502.14	1,267.83	40.72	3,676.53	8,357.43	54,041.47
Received from other Agencies						2,283.96					94.00		2,377.96
Purchases	2,165.22	124.00	454.29	2,634.23	2,801.60	2,939.96	4,757.00		1,344.37	455.99	1,029.77		18,706.43
Returned by customers	64.44		67.90						799.87				932.21
Manufactured			23,504.76	35,563.33		16,832.15	6,734.20		9,475.21	1,886.05			93,995.70
Total	\$21,025.22	\$25,167.93	\$60,545.70	\$58,431.46	\$26,927.57	\$43,840.28	\$29,848.58	\$19,120.62	\$22,125.73	\$ 8,830.51	\$14,297.09	\$ 9,412.81	\$339,573.50
Deduct:													
Adjustment of inventory				\$ 171.53	\$ 52.31								\$ 223.84
Scriptures to Headquarters			\$ 695.55	1,143.48		\$ 536.00	464.90		\$ 1,164.93	\$ 2.18			4,007.04
Scriptures donated	\$ 95.60	\$ 87.60	189.88	1,151.11	1.28	33.61	270.41	\$ 889.16	957.01	2,864.17	\$ 120.89	\$ 284.69	6,945.41
Losses in transit and otherwise	165.60	19.28	95.68					24.01	1.73	904.17	6.00		1,216.47
Scriptures to other Societies and Agencies		94.00	1,000.14				2,936.66						4,030.80
Inventory end of period	5,368.93	12,589.87	27,452.45	20,097.70	10,282.86	20,625.46	15,964.59	7,423.05	9,154.21	4,589.28	7,604.79	720.54	141,873.73
Total Deduction	\$ 5,630.13	\$12,790.75	\$29,433.70	\$22,563.82	\$10,336.45	\$21,195.07	\$19,636.56	\$ 8,336.22	\$11,277.88	\$ 8,359.80	\$ 7,731.68	\$ 1,005.23	\$158,297.29
Total Cost of Scriptures Sold	\$15,395.09	\$12,377.18	\$31,112.00	\$35,867.64	\$16,591.12	\$22,645.21	\$10,212.02	\$10,784.40	\$10,847.85	\$ 470.71	\$ 6,565.41	\$ 8,407.58	\$181,276.21
Cost Value of Scriptures Donated	95.60	1,019.35	189.88	1,151.11	1.28	33.61	270.41	889.16	957.01	2,880.07	501.87	284.69	7,635.02
Reduction of Cost for Foreign Fields		592.77	22,041.58	4,510.82		7,478.69	4,935.38	830.12	639.02		960.83		41,989.21
Salaries	8,437.77	6,417.45	18,488.50	9,133.50	4,880.00	6,880.20	8,561.76	4,858.03	10,109.83	4,134.52	6,457.26	6,726.00	95,090.82
Traveling	210.71	802.19	3,032.77	188.56	960.00	1,224.65	591.02	822.68	534.75	4.38	903.76	1,078.55	10,354.02
Rent and Storage	1,658.40	1,190.52	6,462.28	2,857.13	1,496.00	1,713.72	768.13	900.00	186.58	896.84	488.30	696.00	19,313.90
Transportation	917.23	2,302.98	7,333.83	858.09	602.38	1,722.45	722.64	1,786.71	960.86	208.69	1,356.89	847.67	19,980.42
Colporteurs' Wages	6,017.76	4,667.40	576.18	6,256.13	14,981.70	12,383.13	4,542.38	5,275.28	2,735.61	1,452.24	3,772.15	6,923.30	69,583.26
Colporteurs' Expenses	957.50	2,206.61	11,940.86	2,055.68	1,721.18	1,463.09	756.31	180.00	1,194.21	205.19	2,347.09	1,236.65	26,264.37
Office Printing, Stationery and Letter Postage	683.15	188.37	618.77	399.59	293.29	365.84	154.41	538.80	169.17	121.09	47.96	812.67	4,393.11
Discounts			525.44	3,444.55	1,878.95					6.92		458.00	6,313.86
Translation and Revision		200.00					301.24						501.24
Plates			204.14	2,754.74	301.46	31.66	675.09		4,893.41				8,527.38
Exchange							36.98			1,877.92	19.83		2,267.85
Losses in Transit and Otherwise	466.89	19.28	107.12					24.01	1.73	904.17	6.00		1,529.20
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,077.62	195.84	4,039.31	803.24	772.70	811.31	3,482.05	1,313.20	4,471.12	927.40	64.25	1,231.60	19,189.64
Miscellaneous Losses	185.54		142.23	413.55	423.35	529.12	121.88		37.42	147.95	21.32		2,022.36
Total Expenses	\$36,103.26	\$32,179.94	\$106,814.89	\$70,694.33	\$45,263.41	\$57,288.68	\$36,131.70	\$28,202.39	\$37,099.55	\$14,238.09	\$23,512.92	\$28,702.71	\$516,231.87
Excess of Expense over Income per Exhibit "C"	\$20,228.97	\$19,381.69	\$74,436.42	\$25,421.89	\$21,898.15	\$33,802.38	\$25,564.44	\$16,432.21	\$26,126.90	\$13,397.22	\$16,627.82	\$18,995.88	\$312,313.94

EXHIBIT F—CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET OF DOMESTIC AGENCIES, AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1928

	Home Office	Agency Among Colored People of the U. S.	Atlantic	Central	Eastern	National Capital	Northwestern	Pacific	South Atlantic	Southwestern	Western	Total
ASSETS												
Cash	\$ 39,477.89	\$ 5,962.53	\$ 2,067.10	123.37	805.69	\$ 823.03	\$26,186.99	\$ 210.11	\$ 2,118.73	\$ 81.65	\$ 489.30	\$ 52,159.40
Inventories of Scriptures	284,356.51	9,374.46	22,686.35	12,266.29	6,673.56	1,541.16		35,551.48	12,882.75	24,011.94	16,745.87	452,277.36
Manufacturing Materials	164,898.74											164,898.74
Accounts Receivable	1.00		2,136.35	2,093.84	2,102.23	16.04	1,845.80	5,525.07	1,136.39	3,147.13	2,337.21	20,341.06
Furniture and Fixtures	2,263.31					96.43	1,482.43	622.40				4,464.57
Machinery and Equipment	6,680.30											6,680.30
Accrued Manufacturing Expenses	840.40									111.09	175.21	840.40
Transportation refund due from Headquarters		80.90	107.12	63.97		45.22	117.11	136.69				837.31
Total Assets	\$498,518.15	\$15,417.89	\$26,996.92	\$14,547.47	\$ 9,581.48	\$ 2,521.88	\$29,632.33	\$42,045.75	\$16,137.87	\$27,351.81	\$19,747.59	\$702,499.14
LIABILITIES												\$96,844.14
Accounts Payable	\$ 96,635.27					\$ 0.95	\$ 207.92					
Headquarters:												
Due to Headquarters		\$14,198.31	\$26,295.83	\$14,074.47	\$ 9,936.85	\$3,044.65	\$ 35,302.20	\$38,025.38	\$15,064.24	\$35,173.40	\$23,271.18	\$601,158.58
Due to Headquarters		23,600.00	18,600.00	15,600.00	10,670.00	3,000.00	20,600.00	15,600.00	15,600.00	15,600.00	15,100.00	561,104.20
Due to Headquarters		17,319.74	40,252.84	24,753.62	36,359.40	4,793.62	46,199.20	36,070.31	22,472.31	26,025.14	17,014.94	275,401.18
Due to Headquarters			192.16	79.98			54.55	437.43	285.09			3,636.79
Due to Headquarters												7,111.24
Due to Headquarters												14,874.84
Due to Headquarters												77.11
Due to Headquarters					1.83		32.00	21.60			21.68	3,953.47
Due to Headquarters												86.89
Total Credits		\$55,118.05	\$85,340.83	\$54,508.07	\$56,968.08	\$10,838.27	\$102,187.95	\$90,154.72	\$53,421.64	\$76,798.54	\$55,407.80	\$1,467,404.30
Due to Headquarters		\$19,349.20	\$49,030.52	\$23,582.48	\$34,458.26	\$ 4,883.04	\$ 47,206.70	\$30,616.14	\$21,244.40	\$28,474.71	\$18,531.39	\$ 284,873.27
Due to Headquarters		42.93	1,064.79	253.23	198.52	10.80	713.88	562.75	17.80	499.63	469.89	373,067.21
Due to Headquarters		157.30		65.00	149.78		564.61	117.91		1,347.83	122.28	12,313.46
Due to Headquarters			21.68	32.00						21.60	1.83	77.11
Due to Headquarters												34,768.15
Due to Headquarters		156.05	281.73	168.67	158.74	14.10	263.86	150.64	174.52	474.47	314.44	3,206.43
Due to Headquarters			10.00			3.18	50.00					296.12
Due to Headquarters												2,209.00
Due to Headquarters			58.98	7.61	1.62	3.14	43.13			35.63		150.11
Due to Headquarters							3,953.47					3,953.47
Due to Headquarters		19,994.68	7,876.21	15,851.61	12,419.68	3,403.08	19,967.89	16,661.53	15,847.05	18,592.86	16,220.38	146,834.97
Total Debits	\$498,518.15	\$39,700.16	\$58,343.91	\$39,960.60	\$47,386.60	\$ 8,317.34	\$ 72,763.54	\$48,108.97	\$37,283.77	\$49,446.73	\$35,660.21	\$861,749.30
Total Liabilities		\$401,882.88	\$15,417.89	\$26,996.92	\$14,547.47	\$ 9,581.48	\$ 2,520.93	\$29,424.41	\$42,045.75	\$16,137.87	\$27,351.81	\$605,655.00
												\$702,499.14

EXHIBIT G — COMBINED INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF DOMESTIC AGENCIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1928

	Agency among Colored People of U. S. A.											
	Home Office	Atlantic	Central	Eastern	National Capital	Northwestern	Pacific	South Atlantic	Southwestern	Western	Total	
INCOME:												
Sales:												
By direct sales	\$ 43,235.24	\$ 8,704.79	\$ 31,737.43	\$ 17,803.30	\$ 30,400.96	\$ 5,022.49	\$ 41,048.30	\$ 19,975.10	\$ 10,716.62	\$ 21,024.21	\$ 16,855.69	\$ 241,524.16
By correspondents			2,218.26	1,304.78				6,840.60		5,070.28		15,433.92
By colporteurs		10,641.93	3,226.87	2,936.97	3,276.38		6,519.24	5,872.98	10,268.92	2,592.83	2,024.11	47,354.25
Total Sales	\$ 43,235.24	\$ 14,346.72	\$ 34,964.30	\$ 22,058.62	\$ 34,976.00	\$ 5,022.49	\$ 47,567.54	\$ 26,818.68	\$ 20,982.54	\$ 28,687.32	\$ 18,879.80	\$ 304,312.31
Gifts:												
From Churches		\$ 4,522.94	\$ 2,470.96	\$ 187.30	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 1,012.38	\$ 57.27	\$ 249.80	\$ 32.07	\$ 10.38	\$ 8,563.10
From Auxiliaries			8,939.72	65.00	25.19							9,029.91
From Individuals		45.67	3,328.32	162.34	84.14	4.18	400.21	147.86	7.00	51.00	77.00	4,307.72
Total Gifts	\$ 4,568.61	\$ 14,789.00	\$ 4,144.64	\$ 119.33	\$ 14.18	\$ 14.18	\$ 1,412.59	\$ 205.13	\$ 256.80	\$ 83.07	\$ 87.38	\$ 21,900.73
Returns from Scriptures Donated				\$ 18.60								\$ 18.60
Losses Recovered												\$ 8.44
Miscellaneous Income		\$ 122.07	\$ 306.47	\$ 47.57	2.70	\$ 30.82	\$ 75.63	\$ 25.25		\$ 10.90	\$ 8.44	630.76
Total Income	\$ 48,235.24	\$ 19,037.46	\$ 50,012.77	\$ 22,420.83	\$ 35,116.79	\$ 5,067.49	\$ 49,055.76	\$ 32,919.06	\$ 21,239.34	\$ 28,781.29	\$ 18,984.87	\$ 326,876.84
EXPENSES:												
Cost of Scriptures Sold:												
Balance, beginning of period	\$ 806,849.07	\$ 7,794.78	\$ 19,663.71	\$ 12,115.28	\$ 6,910.33	\$ 1,985.12	\$ 32,276.53	\$ 31,970.90	\$ 12,571.36	\$ 31,105.00	\$ 19,669.13	\$ 483,032.23
Add Adjustments	1,389.34		192	7.98			54.55	437.43	285.09			2,408.52
Adjusted Inventory	\$ 808,238.38	\$ 7,994.78	\$ 19,755.81	\$ 12,123.26	\$ 6,910.33	\$ 1,985.12	\$ 32,331.08	\$ 32,408.33	\$ 12,856.45	\$ 31,105.00	\$ 19,669.13	\$ 485,440.75
Scriptures received from Headquarters	4,140.06	17,319.74	40,120	24,433.28	36,359.40	4,773.16	46,199.25	36,071.12	22,416.56	25,994.59	17,025.69	\$ 275,000.50
Scriptures returned by customer			389.01	211.58	275.88	14.14	834.42	1,108.97	49.06	394.09		3,277.25
Purchases	89,820.12				7.25		60.79					89,895.23
Job Work	257.35											257.35
Manufactured, per Exhibit "H"	266,917.57											266,917.57
Total	\$ 809,348.48	\$ 25,284.52	\$ 60,305.85	\$ 67,090.92	\$ 43,552.80	\$ 6,779.49	\$ 79,422.54	\$ 69,588.42	\$ 35,322.07	\$ 57,493.68	\$ 36,694.82	\$ 1,120,848.65
Deduct:												
Scriptures to Headquarters	\$ 328,785.32	\$ 42.93	\$ 1,084.90	\$ 285.23	\$ 235.27	\$ 16.80	\$ 742.93	\$ 617.21	\$ 17.80	\$ 19.92	\$ 466.01	\$ 332,808.22
Cost of Scriptures Donated	10,420.94	1,344.43	1,189.99	1,309.76	946.45	182.77	301.00	483.11	1,258.96	2,444.57	156.92	20,148.27
Cost of Scriptures Donated for Headquarters			65.00	149.78			277.05	54.16		1,197.83	122.28	1,866.10
Scriptures Donated to the Blind	3.68	58.98	7.61	1.62			43.13	13.75		35.63		167.54
Scriptures to Life Members		37.00	30.00	403.63	1.80		67.00	29.39	18.00		9.50	598.32
Transferred to Publication Department												
Library	2,263.31											2,263.31
Losses in transit and otherwise				7.75			19.57					27.32
Inventory Adjustments	278.48	156.05	281.73	168.67	159.74	17.33	4,217.33	150.64	162.02	474.47	314.44	6,379.00
Inventory end of period	284,356.51	9,374.46	22,686.35	12,236.29	6,673.56	1,541.16	26,186.99	35,551.48	12,882.75	24,011.94	16,745.87	452,277.36
Total Deductions	\$ 626,108.24	\$ 10,907.80	\$ 25,338.85	\$ 14,132.30	\$ 8,576.80	\$ 1,757.00	\$ 31,855.00	\$ 36,899.74	\$ 14,339.53	\$ 28,806.36	\$ 17,815.02	\$ 816,536.34
Total Cost of Scriptures Sold	\$ 43,235.24	\$ 14,346.72	\$ 34,967.30	\$ 22,058.62	\$ 34,976.00	\$ 5,022.49	\$ 47,567.54	\$ 26,818.68	\$ 20,982.54	\$ 28,687.32	\$ 18,879.80	\$ 304,312.31
Cost of Scriptures Donated		1,059.45	1,070.73	1,178.55	861.29	164.95	276.07	422.03	1,121.87	2,143.15	141.24	8,439.33
Cost of Scriptures to Life Members			37.00	30.00	426.63	2.72	68.90	30.07		18.00	2.00	624.82
Salaries		12,793.00	11,288.00	8,051.94	4,080.00	1,916.68	10,750.50	7,729.67	5,893.00	7,386.04	6,547.00	76,385.83
Traveling		1,012.85	360.56	40.47	136.35	174.40	575.59	390.00	366.50	150.00		3,149.72
Rent and Storage		1,584.00	1,292.00	1,065.42	600.00	570.00	2,650.00	1,679.85	960.00	1,326.90	1,200.00	12,868.17
Transportation		715.08	540.01	467.20	181.43	Cr. 1.45	451.06	647.73	287.29	233.09	661.17	4,212.61
Colporteurs' Wages		5,012.40	3,977.50	3,391.70	3,353.11	101.00	2,483.85	1,727.90	3,960.27	2,834.31	6,417.61	33,259.65
Colporteurs' Expenses		633.91	540.42	362.08	424.36	41.14	281.52	353.51	459.23	519.28		2,805.17
Office Printing, Stationery and Letter Postage		290.34	478.81	161.01	171.37	38.96	660.63	163.42	608.48	160.84		3,623.17
Sales Promotion			205.63	57.36	278.72		693.91	240.03				2,805.17
Discounts		864.26	2,175.65	698.90	1,395.24	312.85	2,024.69	2,150.55	1,140.35	2,954.63	305.85	14,022.91
Allowances			200.27	4.59	42.78		51.56	250.13				88.45
Losses in Transit and Otherwise					9.82		5.02					52.07
Miscellaneous Losses			59.51		92.00	27.72	64.55			84.83	28.39	434.80
Miscellaneous Expenses		720.07	695.59	834.60	643.66	137.16	869.45	843.63	1,325.36	657.65	472.22	7,199.39
Total Expenses	\$ 43,235.24	\$ 39,032.08	\$ 57,888.98	\$ 39,272.44	\$ 47,536.47	\$ 8,470.57	\$ 69,023.65	\$ 49,580.59	\$ 37,080.39	\$ 47,374.15	\$ 35,205.25	\$ 473,705.81
Excess of Expense over Income, per Exhibit "C"		\$ 19,994.68	\$ 7,876.21	\$ 15,851.61	\$ 12,419.68	\$ 3,403.08	\$ 19,967.89	\$ 16,661.53	\$ 15,847.05	\$ 18,592.86	\$ 16,220.38	\$ 146,834.97

EXHIBIT H—ANALYSIS OF MANUFACTURING COSTS FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1928

	Paper and Presswork	Binding	Bindery Dept.	Job Work Dept.	Sheet Stock	Materials	Total
Inventory, January 1, 1928.....	\$ 97,004.52	\$ 512.98	\$13,147.11	\$ 565.75	\$34,987.91	\$ 7,436.87	\$153,655.14
Purchases	96,087.28	98,299.29	2,385.59	25,278.43	316.16	7,522.10	229,888.85
Inventory adjustments	667.76	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	667.76
Total	\$193,759.56	\$98,812.27	\$15,532.70	\$25,844.18	\$35,304.07	\$14,958.97	\$384,211.75
Deduct:							
Inventory, December 31, 1928.....	\$109,380.34	\$ 3,036.96	\$12,438.33	\$ 307.10	\$33,052.04	\$ 6,683.97	\$164,898.74
Materials charged to Expenses.....	280.76	.....	.....	.....	.....	176.19	280.76
Reduction of Inventory.....	.....	278.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	278.10
Adjustment of Purchases.....	6,813.75	121.33	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,935.08
Total Deductions	\$116,474.85	\$ 3,436.39	\$12,438.33	\$ 307.10	\$33,052.04	\$ 6,860.16	\$172,568.87
Prime Cost of Scriptures and Job Work	\$ 77,284.71	\$95,375.88	\$ 3,094.37	\$25,537.08	\$ 2,252.03	\$ 8,098.81	\$211,642.88
Publication Expenses .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$ 26,556.74
Depository Expenses .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35,398.42
Job Work Expenses .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,176.82
Total Cost of Scriptures and Job Work .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$ 26,556.74
Deduct:							
Cost of Job Work to determine cost of Scriptures manufactured.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37,390.90
Cost of Scriptures manufactured .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$239,383.96
Add:							
Discount—to obtain list value of Scrip- tures manufactured .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20,608.44
Excess of list value over cost of Scrip- tures manufactured .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,925.17
List Value of Scriptures manufactured, per Exhibit "G" .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$266,917.57

INCOME FROM TRUST FUNDS, 1928

PERPETUAL TRUSTS, ENDOWMENT

Andrew, Ellen P.	\$ 1,315.00	Klein, Solomon	\$ 104.72
Anonymous Gift	26.18	Leet, Annie L.	828.85
Bailey, Joshua A.	261.80	Lyle, John S.	2,629.00
Bates, Wesley E.	230.57	McCoy, William	104.72
Beckman, Gerard	523.60	McLaughlin, Margarete.....	10.48
Black, Mary Jane	2.59	Mackey, James	219.92
Bloom, Raymond Curtis	26.18	Mathson, Rev. and Mrs. Olin F.	10.48
Brainerd, Clarissa	4.50	Mays, Mrs. M. E.	9.11
Bressler, William	13.05	Morrison, Mr. and Mrs. John E.	52.36
Brown, Mary Ellen	128.45	Norcross Memor. Fund, John G.	980.53
*Campbell, Alexander	1,651.25	Parker, LeMira	19.42
Chase, John K.	151.95	Pritchard, Owen and Elizabeth	24.88
Clark, Jeremiah	49.75	Richardson, Hannah W.	261.80
Cotting, Charlotte C.	217.47	Ritchie, Cecilia	26.18
Cotting, Julia A.	52.36	Rogers, Z. and J.	26.29
Cotting, Mary E.	49.75	Rowe, Caleb T.	2,306.28
Darling, Robert	20.00	Russell, Helen R.	104.72
Depew, Mrs. Earl Vincent and her daughter, "Claire Howard Depew Trust Fund"	10.48	Sage, Russell, The Margaret Olivia Sage Endowment Fund in memory of her husband..	26,287.00
Downes, Mary J.	26.18	Sheerer, William	1,281.50
Eagleton, John	26.18	Shepard Bible Fund, Fitch..	5,258.00
Endowment Fund	26,287.00	Sitton, Sallie K. and John R.	205.95
Faxton, Theodore S.	261.80	Sneed Memorial Fund, Frank Woolford	52.36
Fisha, Horace	10.10	Southwick, Mrs. Annie L., in memory of her beloved par- ents John W. Pierce and Lydia A. O. Pierce.....	7.15
French, Bowers	26.18	Special Endowment	121.75
Frost, Elias	6.75	Spotswood, Susan B.	31.41
Gilbert, Sarah E.	261.80	Stokes, Sarah A.	5.23
Gillet, Solomon L.	240.85	Swan, Frank S.	52.36
Graves, Levi	235.56	Switzer, Eugenia	149.37
Hale, E. J. M.	1,052.25	Thomas, Isaac M.	300.00
Hall, Parker L.	177.75	Thompson, William	245.12
Hallock Fund	10.45	Tuttle, G. W.	52.36
Ham Fund, Thomas H. and Caroline F.	2,488.68	Vanetta, Peter R.	104.72
Hamilton, Ireneus	26.18	Wallace Fund, Howard and Annie	26.18
Hamilton, Rachel R.	52.36	Waterman, Mary S.	52.36
Hamilton, Robert	261.80	Wightman, C. W.	80.40
Harmon, Jacob	3,261.90	Williams, William	52.36
Harris, Dr. Chas. and Eliz. P.	1,866.80	Winkley, Henry	1,052.25
Hemenway, George B.	20.00	Wood, Josiah B.	15.00
Hemstreet, James	13.62	Woodard, Jonathan	434.56
Hemstreet, Jane A.	6.92	Woodard, Rebecca G.	441.77
Hughes, Jenkins	6.00	Wriglesworth, Mary E.	21.02
Hunt, Rev. Albert S.	523.60	Trust Fund Rehabilitation....	421.37
Ives, Willard	1,001.85	Tuthill, Samuel T.	1.43
Jackson Memorial Fund, Mary A. (Mrs. Stonewall).....	5.30		
Jessup, Morris K.	1,315.00		
Johnes, Mary B.	26.18		
Johnson, Thomas S.	655.00		
Kilpatrick, Jane	2.60		
Kingman, Mary O.	52.36		
		Total General Purpose ..	\$92,019.36

*Half the income received from securities held by the Society for the Trustees.

TRUST FUNDS—SPECIFIC PURPOSES

Barton Fund, Anna Maria....	\$157.08	Speedling, Oscar H.	52.36
Blossom, Lucy Augusta	52.36	Stewart, James	10.48
Cox, Cortez F.	31.80	Sturgeon, W. O., and Mrs. M. C.	50.00
Farnham, Rev. Luther	99.49	Sweetman, James T.	1,314.50
Haden Memorial Fund, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gallatin..	523.60	"Testament Fund"	62.84
Haywood, Charles N.	52.36	Thompson, Harriet N., in mem- ory of Lucius D. Thompson .	40.89
Hood, Master John Miffin 3rd Memorial Fund	523.60	Voice, James	450.18
*Kasey, S. W.	3,984.12	Wardell, J. H.	52.36
Kenney, Asa W., Fund	389.21	White, Rebecca	346.43
Neefus, Mrs. Mary	461.43	Wright Memorial Fund	31.94
Neefus, Peter I.	411.24		
Simpson, Mary Virginia	26.18		
"Special Gift"	5,796.09		
		Total	\$14,920.54

*Securities held by the Fidelity and Columbia Trust Co., Louisville, Ky.

SPECIFIC PURPOSE TRUSTS CREATED BY THE BOARD

Salisbury, Mary Jane.....	\$289.54
Selinger, Michel	130.90
Total	\$420.44

GENERAL PURPOSE TRUSTS CREATED BY THE BOARD

Earnest, George	\$ 20.00	Stokes, Caroline Phelps	523.60
Elmendorf, James Y.	416.37	Trust Fund received through	
Ingle, Mary	136.15	Covenanter Presby. Church,	
Letcher, John D. In memory		Newburgh, N. Y.	26.18
of his deceased wife, Louise		Total	\$ 1,331.74
Taylor Letcher	209.44		

TRUST FUNDS—SUBJECT TO LIFE INTEREST

Conant, Mabel S.	\$ 5.23	Lyman, George R.	52.36
Elizabeth Herr Legacy	500.00	Ogg, Alex. W.	179.24
Hood, John M., Jr.	781.85	Wallace, Cornelia M.	145.55
James, Katherine E.	5.23	Total	\$ 1,679.94
Morey, Robert S.	10.48		

LIST OF CONTRIBUTIONS

LEGACIES

Barber, Matilda, late of Orange, Conn.	\$ 6.25	Little, Rev. John W., late of Madison Co., Neb.	\$50.00
Brigham, Julia, late of Philadelphia, Pa. (\$500 of this amt. to be used for work in Brazil)	1,200.00	Lyman, Minnie H., late of Jackson Co., Ore.	125.00
*Brown, Wm. Alex., late of Philadelphia, Pa.	2,056.12	McCreary, Harriet, late of Adams Co., Pa.	1,950.00
Bryson, Tilde, late of Waukon, Iowa	51.49	Mathews, Sarah A., late of Brooklyn, N. Y.	1,000.00
Calvert, Nancy, late of Randolph Co., Ill.	740.15	Nichols, Anna W., late of Jersey City, N. J.	475.00
Countryman, Elizabeth A., late of Scottsburg, N. Y.	100.00	Powell, E. M., late of Dallas, Texas	13,000.00
Davies, Emmeline C., late of Brooklyn, N. Y.	6,660.47	Roberts, Hannah J., late of Columbus, Wis.	100.00
Davies, Mary, late of Elgin, Ill.	99.00	Rollins, Helen A., late of Yonkers, N. Y.	900.00
East, Solomon M., late of Coulterville, Ill.	100.00	Sherrill, Andrew M., late of East Orange, N. J.	1,000.00
Ellis, Amayah D., late of Blissfield, Mich.	130.00	Skeel, Mary A., late of Bedford Hills, N. Y.	5,000.00
Estate of Rev. Henry C. Thomson, D.D.	343.53	Smith, Augustus P., late of Sterling, Ill.	35.00
Greer, George, late of Newcastle, Pa.	100.00	Smith, Rev. George L., late of Cedarville, N. J.	144.90
Harrington, Lucy D.	1.00	Smith, Sarah G. M., late of Mansfield, Ohio	55.81
Heitebry, Miss Sena, late of Detroit, Mich.	49.28	Sperry, Anna W., late of Mt. Vernon, N. Y.	500.00
Herr, Elizabeth, late of Springfield, Pa.	6,072.59	Trumbull, George B., late of Ithaca, N. Y.	2,944.33
Howell, Murdock, late of Montclair, N. J.	1,000.00	Walker, Mary C., late of New York, N. Y.	6,400.00
Johnson, Ababelle J. F., late of Riverhead, N. Y.	176.80	Warner Estate, Anna B., late of Phillipstown, N. Y.	.30
Kendall, Susan R., late of New York, N. Y.	5,000.00	Waters, Mary G., late of Yonkers, N. Y.	3,097.64
King, James L., late of Cambridge, N. Y.	9,177.16	Williams, Louis K., late of Pasadena, Cal.	818.79
Kinney, Annie Noble, late of New York Co., N. Y.	240.33	Young, Rhoda S., late of Orient, N. Y.	100.00
Ladd, Frank M., late of Milford, Mich.	100.00	Zimmer, Miss Mima F., late of Portland, Ore.	25.00
Leeper, Dr. Hugh Y., late of Asheville, N. C.	75.00	Treas. of the New England Conference	25.00
		Total	\$71,225.94

*\$186.92 Blind Account, Journal entry.

TRUST FUNDS—PERMANENT—GENERAL PURPOSE

Andrew Dawson Whyte Memorial	\$1,000.00	Trust Fund received through the Covenanter Presbyterian Church, Newburgh, N. Y..	500.00
Horace Fisher Legacy.....	93.00	Tuthill, Samuel T., Gift.....	100.00
Le Mira J. Parker Legacy....	500.00	Wesley E. Bates Fund.....	1,487.43
Southwick, Annie L., in memory of her beloved parents, John Window Pierce and Anna Osborn Pierce	500.00	Total	\$4,180.43

TRUST FUNDS—PERMANENT—SPECIFIC PURPOSE

James Voice, New Testament Translation Fund.....	\$ 11,591.50
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TRUST FUNDS—SUBJECT TO LIFE INTEREST

Elizabeth Herr, Estate	\$ 10,000.00
John Miffin Hood, Jr., Trust Fund.....	20,000.00
	<u>\$30,000.00</u>

**RESERVE FUND CREATED BY BOARD OF MANAGERS
GENERAL PURPOSE**

John D. Letcher, in memory of his deceased wife, Louise Taylor Letcher...\$	4,000.00
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**RESERVE FUND CREATED BY BOARD OF MANAGERS
SPECIFIC PURPOSE**

Mrs. Maud McEckron Hobein Fund	\$ 150.00
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ANNUITY GIFTS

Amount received during the year	\$533,938.14
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GIFTS FROM CHURCHES

Amount received during the year	\$216,089.32
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GIFTS FROM INDIVIDUALS

Amount received during the year	\$167,093.39
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MISSISSIPPI FLOOD RELIEF FUND

Amount received during the year	\$ 593.70
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GIFTS FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE BLIND

Churches	\$ 501.44
Individuals	6,697.64
Central Agency	5.00
	<u>\$7,204.08</u>

RETURNS FROM SCRIPTURES DONATED

American Sunday School Union	\$ 834.80	University of Hamburg.....	2.12
Baldwin, Misses E., and J. D.	200.00	Vaughan, Rev. B. F.....	.65
Board of National Missions ..	238.96	Weiss, Rev. H. W.....	1.00
Caskey, Herbert K.	10.00	Williams, Daniel J.....	1.00
Dickerson, Jeremiah	1.00	Williams, Rev. E. P.....	1.00
Emerich, Rev. Irving P.	1.00	Williamson, Sarah C.....	4.62
Fletcher, Rev. Chas. D.	1.00	Eastern Agency	18.60
Houck, H. W.	1.00	Japan Agency	810.00
Kramer, Mrs. Gertrude B....	121.34	Levant Agency	11.28
London Missionary Society..	1,443.62	Siam Agency	67.25
Lops, Rev. Louis.....	1.00	By Transfer	56.28
Rountree, H. C., U. S. S. Utah	6.70		
Stott, Chaplain Geo. A.....	1.00		<u>\$3,835.22</u>

AUXILIARY AND COOPERATIVE BIBLE SOCIETIES

With Date of Recognition, Donations and Purchases of Scriptures

For Twelve Months Ending December 31, 1928

 The Post Office address of the President and Corresponding Secretary is ordinarily, though not invariably, identical with that of the Treasurer.

NAMES OF AUXILIARIES and Date of Recognition	Donations 113th Year	Scriptures 113th Year	PRESIDENTS	CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES	TREASURERS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS OF TREASURER
ALABAMA						
Alabama of Montgomery. 1852	.....	288 28	Walter D. Shepard	Rev. W. J. Elliott	E. S. McSwain	Montgomery
CALIFORNIA						
California..... 1850	.....	.....	Benj. I. Romaine	Rev. A. Wesley Mell	J. E. White	San Francisco
CONNECTICUT						
Connecticut.....	.....	253 00	Rv. R. H. Potter, D.D.	Rev. S. W. Raymond	Chas. Ed. Prior, Jr.	Hartford
Haddam..... 1822	125 00	.....	C. A. Russell	Rev. E. E. Lewis	Rev. E. E. Lewis	Haddam
Middletown..... 1829	150 00	.....	Karl P. Harrington	Prof. J. W. Hewitt	E. A. Wilcox	Middletown
Sharon..... 1826	55 55	.....	Rev. F. W. Herman	Wm. Mow	Miss J. Davis	Sharon
DELAWARE						
New Castle Female... 1822	20 00	.....	Julia Nevin	Mrs. P. B. Lightner	Mrs. Ellen Dodd	New Castle
DIST. OF COLUMBIA						
Washington City..... 1828	1,000 00	.....	Andrew Wilson	Rev. Jas. H. Hyatt	T. A. Hostetler	Washington
ILLINOIS						
Chicago.....	261 80	.....	L. T. M. Sloeum	Rv. J. L. McLaughlin	R. M. Campbell	Chicago
Menard County..... 1840	.....	.....	.....	.....	Chas. C. Frackelton	Petersburg
Randolph County..... 1838	200 00	50 00	A. M. Barker	Sarah Stephenson	Mrs. L. C. Hood	Sparta
INDIANA						
Fayette County..... 1828	100 00	.....	David W. McKee	W. C. Ochiltree	J. F. Schweikle	Connersville
IOWA						
Foreston, Welsh. 1867	.....	.....	Wm. R. Williams	Llewelyn Williams	Mrs. E. H. Jones	Lime Springs
Gomer, Welsh..... 1886	.....	.....	Rev. W. R. Cox	Clement Jones	W. R. Rowlands	Emerson, R. F. 1
Sharon & Linn Grove. 1889	.....	.....	T. C. Robb	Anna McClurkin	Eugene Reed	Morning Sun
KANSAS						
Emporia & Vic. Welsh. 1866	375 00	.....	Rev. E. S. Roberts	H. G. Davis	W. G. Roberts	Emporia
United B. S., Eastern	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Allen Co..... 1887	.....	38 4 ⁶	Mrs. Ida Merrill	Mrs. G. Barton	Mrs. G. Barton	Moran
KENTUCKY						
*Covington & Vic.... 1848	.....	.....	Richard P. Ernst	L. H. Wilson	John A. Johnson	Covington
MAINE						
Maine..... 1816	.....	770 15	Edgar R. Payson	E. T. Garland	Ozma Adams	Portland
MARYLAND						
Maryland..... 1833	.....	.....	J. Henry Baker	Rev. J. H. Hyatt, DD.	H. C. Miller	Baltimore
MASSACHUSETTS						
Massachusetts..... 1816	.....	10575 54	Hon. R. F. Raymond	Rv. G. H. Spencer, DD.	B. Preston Clark	Boston
New Bedford..... 1834	.....	200 01	Rev. Chas. H. Cook	Rev. John M. Front	A. P. Cunningham	New Bedford

* Inactive

NAMES OF AUXILIARIES and Date of Recognition	Donations 112th Year	Scriptures 112th Year	PRESIDENTS	CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES	TREASURERS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS OF TREASURER
OHIO						
Cincinnati Young Men's	1834			Rev. Frank Marston D.D.	H. J. Nippert	Cincinnati
Cedarville.....1851	65 00	56 00	W. P. Harriman	G. H. Hartman	W. J. Tarbox	Cedarville
Columbus, Welsh....1853			John E. Jones	Miss Marg. Hughes	J. E. Jones	Columbus
Gomer, Welsh.....1850			Mrs. W. L. Evans	Mrs. Orville Evans	M. L. Morris	Gomer
Greene County.....1817	100 38		F. H. Dean		T. D. Kyle	Xenia
Piqua Female.....1828	150 00	52 00	Mrs. L. DeF. Butterfield	Mrs. Bertha Morrow	Mrs. L. R. Spencer	Piqua
Salem and Van Wert County, Welsh.....1860				J. D. Jones	Henry Uhl	Venedocia
Troy Female.....1857	300 00	91 02	Mrs. H. A. Cosley	Mrs. F. L. Kissinger	Mrs. C. Montgomery	Troy
PENNSYLVANIA						
Pennsylvania.....1840	7,567 30		Rev. H. E. Jacobs D.D.	Rev. Frank P. Parkin, D.D.	Harry Hodges	Philadelphia
SOUTH CAROLINA						
Abbeville County....1823	217 93	50 00	Rev. J. B. Pressly	C. A. Milford	Amos B. Morse	Abbeville
Charleston.....1817	600 00	238 53	John P. Thomas	J. Arthur Johnston	Dunbar Robb	Bx 844 Charleston
Rocky Creek.....1855	50 00	15 09	Rev. W. A. Kennedy	R. R. Steele	R. R. Steele	Blackstock
Union B. S., Fairfield and Richland Counties..1841	52 29		T. C. Camak	C. H. Leitner	C. H. Leitner	Wallaceville
Waxhaw and Shiloh....1868	27 03		Rev. W. C. Ewert	W. P. Robinson	N. B. Cousar	Lancaster
York County.....1888			Rev. T. T. Walsh	J. A. Marion	Mary E. Williams	York
TENNESSEE						
Duck River.....1819	50 00		G. W. Moody, M.D.	H. L. Woosley	H. J. Thompson	Shelbyville
Nashville.....1824		74 36	Rev. J. I. Vance, D.D.	George M. White	George M. White	Nashville
Rock Creek.....	34 21	9 12	S. K. Walker	Miss Olivia Davis	Mrs. Ross Woods	Lewisburg
TEXAS						
Austin.....1850			Geo. W. Beaver	Mrs. I. H. Sydnor	Sam Sparks	Austin
Houston County.....1852			A. A. Aldrich	C. W. Jones	John F. Baker	Crockett
VERMONT						
Vermont.....1816	100 00		Hon. H. Bond	Rev. G. H. Spencer	Dr. O. G. Stickney	Barre
Fairhaven, Welsh....1859		12 60	John O. Williams	Wm. R. Hughes	John D. Owen	Box 535 Fairhaven
South Poultney.....1912			Rev. J. W. Morris	Mrs. T. E. Pickering	Evan Price	Poultney, RFD 2
West Pawlet, Welsh..1890	34 00		Isaac Lewis	John P. Owens	Wm. E. Parry	West Pawlet
VIRGINIA						
Virginia.....1816			Rev. J. O. Helsabeck	Rev. M. B. Porter	Rev. M. B. Porter	Richmond
WEST VIRGINIA						
Berkeley County.....1866			Lee M. Bender	Guy H. McKee	B. D. Myers	Martinsburg
Jefferson County.....1868	60 00		Hon. G. M. Beltzhoover	W. P. Licklider	W. C. Myers	Shepherdstown
WISCONSIN						
Columbus, Welsh....1854			Eben Roberts	W. H. Jones	R. J. Roberts	Columbus
First Welsh B. S., Vic. of Oshkosh.....1853	60 00		E. Davies	O. L. Jones	Geo. Williams	Picketts
Ixonia, Welsh.....1869	50 00		Roland Pugh	Evan T. Evans	R. Pritchard	Ixonia
Miffin, Welsh.....1868	28 00		Wm. Harris	Alvin O. Jones	G. H. Jones	Rewey
Olivet Church, B.S. 1855		1 54	Wm. W. Jones	T. A. P. Owens	O. M. Roberts	Cambria
Oshkosh City, Welsh..1871			Edw. W. Jones	John O. Jones	H. E. Jones	Oshkosh
Racine, Welsh.....1849	190 00		Wm. Evans	John D. Jones	R. Howell Jones	Racine
Spring Water, Welsh. 1857			Wm J. Knight	Owen Williams	W. M. Davies	Wild Rose, R. D 1
Waukesha, Welsh....1847			Edward Williams	Emlyn Griffiths	W. B. Owens	Wales

LIFE DIRECTORS AND MEMBERS

Made from January 1, 1928, to December 31, 1928

Directors for Life

BY THE PAYMENT OF ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS OR UPWARD

Barrows, Delmer A.	Todd, Miss Patricia Delores
Bent, Rev. Rufus H.	Vanderpoel, Ambrose Ely
Cleckler, Rev. Richard Cox	Van Steenberg, James T.
Dulles, Miss Clover Todd	Waring, Arthur B.
Dulles, Miss Joan	Werner, John A.
Leighton, Miss Liza Gilman	Williams, J. Chauncey
Poling, Rev. Daniel Alfred, D.D., L.L.D.	Winn, Howard H.

Memorial Members

BY PAYMENT OF ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS OR UPWARD

Ellis, Mrs. Carrie W.	Kilgore, William and Victoria M.
Gallaher, Miss Elizabeth	Patch, Mrs. Emma S.
Higgins, Edward M.	Vanderpoel, George B.

Life Members

BY VIRTUE OF A CONTRIBUTION OF FIFTY DOLLARS OR UPWARD

Agens, Mrs. Maud M.	Ellenberger, Dorthy Blair
Agnew, F. Myron	Ellenberger, Paul
Agnew, Norman F.	Fay, Charles S.
Agnew, Ralph Palmer	Ferguson, Wm. A.
Anderson, Marvin V.	Foster, Antoine Lentilhon
Ash, Miss Mary	Fregin, Mrs. Adelaide
Baker, Mrs. Jennie A.	George, Wm. Maurice
Baldwin, Emily A. (H. P.)	Gibson, Evan Watson
Baldwin, Mrs. Minnie R.	Gilkey, Mrs. Lois Lacy
Baldwin, Wm. R.	Gillingham, Frank Morris
Ball, Penelope Screven	Gillingham, Lizzie K. (Mrs. F. M.)
Beedle, Mrs. Maggie	Gordon, Arthur M.
Bonbright, Irving Wayland, Jr.	Grimm, Miss Florence E.
Bonbright, Irving Wayland, 3rd	Hadley, Miss Bessie S.
Bond, M. Florence	Hadley, Mrs. Grace S.
Boss, Miss Edith	Hall, Miss Tirzah H.
Breed, Rev. J. Noel	Hamilton, Miss Sada E.
Brees, J. Alford	Harbison, Emma J. Boyd (Mrs. Samuel P.)
Brown, David Graham	Harvey, Rev. Frederick
Brown, William Graham	Hawley, Louis B.
Buchanan, James	Hayes, Rev. Leonidas Braxton
Buck, Anna Williamson	Hinkley, Miss Nellie G.
Buck, Thomas Atkins	Hoefler, Melaine
Buschmann, Theodore	Hoelzer, Julia F. (Mrs. John)
Cable, Mr. Orphia	Hooks, Miss Carrie
Campbell, Mrs. Gertrude T.	Hoover, Mrs. Rachel
Campbell, Rev. Harry E.	Hopping, Theodore
Catherman, Rev. Charles Franklin	Hulsmit, Frank T.
Chamberlin, Carrie B.	Huston, Mrs. Eva L.
Clark, Rev. Raymond	Hutchison, Rev. A. P.
Coe, Amy B.	Ingalls, Clyde E.
Crawford, Adam	Ingalls, Irving L.
Crom, Sullivan O.	Isaacs, Jessie M.
Crom, Mrs. Venetta	Jensen, Dr. Martin
Davis, John Wigley	Jones, David V.
De Angelis, Miss Sarah	Jones, Rev. Edward Henry
Deets, Roy	Jones, Rev. Henry Pickney, D.D.
DeLong, Flora	Jones, Rev. M. G.
Dentzler, Sister Catherine	Jones, Osborn
Dewey, Mary A. L. (Mrs. E. S.)	Jones, Wm. M.
Dodd, Milton	Jordan, Wilfred
Donnan, Miss Elizabeth	Kerr, William C.
Dupuy, Mr. Edward L.	King, Mrs. Margaret C.
Dupuy, Mrs. Edward L.	Kull, Mrs. D. W.
Eakin, Miss Ruth O.	Landis, Katherine R.
Easter, Mary W. (Mrs. Henry)	Laucks, Elizabeth

- Leck, Mrs. Mary B.
Marshall, Carl Erwin
Marshall, Mr. J. A.
Marshall, Miss Lizzie
Martin, Gertrude Elizabeth
Mason, Willard L.
Mathews, James Houston
May, Louise C.
McCreary, Ethel
McDonald, Mrs. Catherine
Miller, Mrs. John W.
Mills, Charles Haward
Mills, Rev. Gommer
Min, Mr. Yeng Chen
Montgomery, Mrs. Charles W.
Morgan, Glenn
Morrison, Mary Bates (Mrs. F. E.)
Moy, Wing
Newcomer, Waldo
Paydon, August Stephen
Pennings, Rev. Bert
Peters, Mrs. Ollie J.
Plunkett, Wm. Caldwell
Plunkett, Mary
Poling, Rev. Daniel Alfred, D.D., LL.D.
Pope, Mary F. (Mrs. James)
Rea, Harriet Teal
Rholfs, Mrs. Anna Catherine Green
Rose, Grace M. (Mrs. Samuel)
Sanson, Kittie M.
Schuler, John McHenry
Schwartz, Mrs. Mary C.
Scranton, Nellie T.
Seaver, Kenneth
Shone, Grady H.
Shotwell, Mrs. Charlotte Drum
Smawley, Eva L.
Smith, Clara L.
Smith, Clarence Mitchell
Smith, Mrs. Mary Eugenia
Spangler, Laura May
Spangler, Pauline
Speidell, Henry W.
Staiger, Rev. Albert
Stark, Edgar
Stearns, Dr. Henry S.
Stevenson, R. M.
Stevenson, W. F.
Stewart, Samuel T.
Stillians, Ruth
Stoiber, Arthur F.
Stoiber, Erwin L.
Stoiber, Herbert A.
Stoiber, Louis
Stone, Mrs. Alice Gertrude
Stone, Henry O.
Storey, Rev. Charles Henry
Strong, Delah Woodhull
Strong, Eleanor Ormond
Stuart, W. A.
Sutton, Mary Isabella
Taylor, John F.
Telford, Geo. M.
Thomson, Mary E.
Wagner, Charlotte White (Mrs. Geo. F.)
Wagner, Rev. Paul S., B.D.
Ward, T. W., Jr.
Watson, Dr. Emory Olin
Wallis, Walter
White, C. F.
Williams, Eliabeth Chauncy
Williams, John Chauncy, Jr.
Wilson, Wm. T.
Winchester, Walter F.
Witherspoon, Rev. J. W.
Zinsmeister, Mrs. Mary

CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

Originally Adopted in 1816, and Subsequently Amended

ARTICLE I

THIS Society shall be known by the name of the AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY, of which the sole object shall be to encourage a wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment. The only copies in the English language, to be circulated by the Society, shall be of the version set forth in 1611, and commonly known as the King James Version, whether in its original form as published in the aforesaid year or as revised, the New Testament in 1881 and the Old Testament in 1885, and published in these years under the supervision of the Committee of Revision, or as further revised and edited by the American Committee of Revision and printed under its supervision in 1901.

ARTICLE II

This Society shall add its endeavors to those employed by other Societies, for circulating the Scriptures throughout the United States and their Territories; and shall furnish them with plates, or such other assistance as circumstances may require. This Society shall also, according to its ability, extend its influence to other countries, whether Christian, Mohammedan, or pagan.

ARTICLE III

All Bible Societies shall be allowed to purchase, at cost, from this Society, Bibles for distribution within their own districts; and the officers of all such Bible Societies as shall hereafter agree to place their surplus revenue, after supplying their own districts with the Bible, at the disposal of this Society, shall be entitled to vote in all meetings of the Society.

ARTICLE IV

Each subscriber of five dollars annually to the funds of the Society shall be a Member of the Society, shall have the right to participate in the business of the Annual Meeting and to vote in the election of the Managers of the Society; and shall be entitled to receive such literature, and on such terms, as may be provided for in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE V

Each subscriber of fifty dollars at one time to the funds of the Society shall be a Member for Life, and shall have the right to participate in the business of the Annual Meeting, and to vote in the election of the Managers of the Society; and shall be entitled to receive such literature, and on such terms, as may be provided for in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE VI

Each subscriber of one hundred and fifty dollars at one time to the funds of the Society, or each subscriber who shall by one additional pay-

ment increase his original subscription to one hundred and fifty dollars, shall be a Director for Life; but he shall not be such Director when he is in receipt of any salary, emolument, or compensation for services, from the Society; and each Director for Life shall have the right to participate in the business of the Annual Meeting, and to vote in the election of the Managers of the Society; and shall be entitled to receive such literature, and on such terms, as may be provided for in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE VII

Directors shall be entitled to attend and speak, and if constituted Directors before June 1, 1877, shall be entitled to vote at all meetings of the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE VIII

A Board of Managers shall be appointed to conduct the business of the Society, consisting of forty-eight laymen, of whom thirty-two shall reside in the city of New York or its vicinity. One-fourth part of the whole number shall go out of office at the expiration of each year, but shall be re-eligible.

Every Minister of the Gospel who is a Member for Life of the Society, if he be not entitled to receive any salary, emolument, or compensation for services, from the Society, shall be entitled to meet and vote with the Board of Managers, and be possessed of the same powers as a Manager himself.

The Managers shall appoint all officers, and call special general meetings, and fill such vacancies as may occur, by death or otherwise, in their own Board.

ARTICLE IX

Each Member of the Society shall be entitled, under the direction of the Board of Managers, to purchase Bibles and Testaments at the Society's prices, which shall be as low as possible.

ARTICLE X

The annual meetings of the Society shall be held at New York or Philadelphia, at the option of the Society, on the second Thursday of May, in each year; when the Managers shall be chosen, the accounts presented, and the proceedings of the foregoing year reported.

ARTICLE XI

The President and Vice-Presidents, for the time being, shall be considered, *ex officio*, members of the Board of Managers. The Treasurer and Secretaries shall, in addition to their other duties, attend meetings of the Board, and of the Committees thereof, to render such aid in imparting information, recording and reading proceedings and minutes, and in preparing reports, as may be required of them.

ARTICLE XII

At the general meetings of the Society, and the meetings of the Managers, the President, or, in his absence, the Vice-President first on the list then present, and in the absence of all the Vice-Presidents, such member as shall be appointed for that purpose, shall preside at the meeting.

ARTICLE XIII

The Managers shall meet on the first Thursday in each month, or oftener, if necessary, at such place in the city of New York as they shall from time to time adjourn to, but when the first Thursday falls on a legal holiday the meeting shall be on the second Thursday.

ARTICLE XIV

The Managers shall have the power of appointing such persons as have rendered essential services to the Society, either Members for Life, or Directors for Life.

ARTICLE XV

The whole minutes of every meeting shall be signed by the Chairman.

ARTICLE XVI

No alteration shall be made in this Constitution, except by the Society at an annual meeting, on the recommendation of the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE XVII

The President, or, in his absence, the Vice-President first on the list in the city of New York, *may*, and, on the written request of six members of the Board, *shall* call a special meeting of the Board of Managers, giving three days' notice of such meeting, and of its object.

ARTICLE XVIII

The Board of Managers may admit to the privileges of an Auxiliary, any Society which was organized and had commenced the printing, publication, and issuing of the Sacred Scriptures before the establishment of this Society, with such relaxation of the terms of admission, heretofore prescribed, as the said Board, two-thirds of the members present consenting, may think proper.

CHARTER OF THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

CHAP. 68.

P. 41, LAWS OF 1841.

AN ACT

TO INCORPORATE THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY,

PASSED MARCH 25, 1841.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1.—All such persons as now are, or may hereafter become Members of the American Bible Society, formed in the city of New York in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, shall be and are hereby constituted a body corporate, by the name of "The American Bible Society," for the purpose of publishing and promoting a general circulating of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment.

SECTION 2.—The net income of the said Society, arising from their real estate, shall not exceed the sum of five thousand dollars annually.

SECTION 3.—This Corporation shall possess the general powers, and be subject to the provisions contained in Title third of Chapter eighteen of the first Part of the Revised Statutes, so far as the same are applicable, and have not been repealed.*

SECTION 4.—This act shall take effect immediately.

SECTION 5.—The Legislature may at any time modify or repeal this act.

The following proceedings were taken by the Society at the next stated annual meeting after the passage of the Act of Incorporation.

An Ordinance to establish a Board of Managers, and for other purposes.

The American Bible Society do ordain as follows:

1st. The business of this Corporation shall be conducted by a Board of Managers, constituted and appointed in like manner as prescribed by the Constitution under which the American Bible Society acted immediately before its incorporation, in relation to the Board of Managers therein mentioned.

2d. The Managers who were members of the said Board at the time of the said incorporation (except those whose time of service had expired), shall continue in office during the terms for which they were respectively elected. And all persons who, at the time of such incorporation, were officers of the said Society, shall continue to hold their respective offices during the pleasure of the said Board.

3d. The Board of Managers shall have power to appoint all officers of the Society, and to allow to such of them as they may think proper a suitable compensation; to purchase and hold such real and personal estate as may be permitted by the Charter; to cause to be made and to use a common seal for the Corporation; and to make By-Laws not inconsistent with the laws of this State; and they shall have such further powers as were

* General powers contained in Title third of Chapter eighteen of the first Part of the Revised Statutes and given to "The American Bible Society" by the third section of the Act incorporating that Society:

- 1st. To have succession by its corporate name perpetually.
- 2d. To sue and be sued, complain or defend, in any court of law or equity.
- 3d. To make and use a common seal, and alter the same at pleasure.
- 4th. To hold, purchase, and convey such real and personal estate as the purposes of the Corporation shall require, not exceeding the amount limited in its Charter.
- 5th. To appoint such subordinate officers and agents as the business of the Corporation shall require and to allow them a suitable compensation.
- 6th. To make By-Laws, not inconsistent with any existing law, for the management of its property and the regulation of its affairs.

given by the said Constitution to the Board of Managers therein mentioned. Ten members of the Board of Managers shall be a sufficient number to form a Board for the transaction of business, and every decision of a majority of the persons duly assembled as a Board shall be valid.

The Act and Ordinance were severally adopted.

AN ACT

TO ENABLE THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY TO PURCHASE, TAKE, HOLD
AND CONVEY OR LEASE CERTAIN REAL ESTATE,

PASSED APRIL 13, 1852.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1.—Power and authority are hereby granted to the American Bible Society to purchase, take, hold, and convey, the ground or real estate in the city of New York, bounded east by the Third Avenue, west by the Fourth Avenue, north by Ninth Street, and south by Stuyvesant Street and Astor Place, together with all the buildings and improvements which may be erected or made thereon; and also, from time to time to lease such parts of the said premises as may not be immediately required for the actual use and occupation of the Society, even although the net annual income of the Society, arising from its real estate, should thereby exceed the amount limited in its Charter.

SECTION 2.—This act shall take effect immediately.

STATE OF NEW YORK, } ss.
Secretary's Office, }

I have compared the preceding with an original law on file in this office, and do certify that the same is a correct transcript therefrom, and of the whole of said original.

ALBANY, *April 14, 1852.* ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL,
Deputy Secretary of State.

CHAP. 360.

P. 879, LAWS OF 1872

AN ACT

TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY,

PASSED APRIL 24, 1872.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1.—The corporation, The American Bible Society, chartered by the Act of March twenty-fifth, eighteen hundred and forty-one (chapter sixty-eight), and mentioned in the Act of April thirteenth, eighteen hundred and fifty-two (chapter two hundred and forty-seven), in addition to its present powers, hereby is authorized to take and hold real estate by gift, bequest, or devise, provided that said Society shall alienate the same within three years after the same shall vest in the Society in possession, and provided that every such bequest or devise shall be subject to the provisions of the Act of April thirteen, eighteen hundred and sixty (chapter three hundred and sixty). But this act shall not apply to any will or testament of any testator who has died before the passage of this Act.

SECTION 2.—This act shall take effect immediately.

STATE OF NEW YORK, } ss.
Office of the Secretary of State }

I have compared the preceding with the original law on file in this office, and do hereby certify that the same is a correct transcript therefrom, and of the whole of said original law.

Given under my hand and seal of office, at the City of Albany, this twenty-sixth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-two.

ANSON S. WOOD,
Secretary of State.

CHAP. 105.

AN ACT

TO AMEND CHAPTER THREE HUNDRED AND SIXTY OF THE LAWS OF EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-TWO, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY."

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

[Became a law without the approval of the Governor, in accordance with the provisions of Article four, Section nine, of the Constitution, April 5th, 1888.]

Passed, three-fifths being present.

SECTION 1.—Section one of chapter three hundred and sixty of the laws of eighteen hundred and seventy-two, entitled "An Act to amend the Charter of the American Bible Society," is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

SECTION 1.—The corporation, the American Bible Society, chartered by chapter sixty-eight of the laws of eighteen hundred and forty-one, shall be capable of taking, receiving, and holding any personal or real property by gift or grant, bequest or devise; but all such bequests or devises by residents of this State shall be subject to the limitations of chapter three hundred and sixty of the laws of eighteen hundred and sixty, and the said corporation shall also be competent to act as a trustee in respect to any gift or grant, bequest or devise, pertaining to the objects of said corporation, and gifts and grants, bequests and devises of personal or real property may be made directly to said corporation or in trust for any of the purposes comprehended in the general objects of said Society; and such trusts may continue for such time as may be necessary to accomplish the purpose for which they may be created.

SECTION 2.—This act shall take effect immediately.

STATE OF NEW YORK, }
Office of the Secretary of State, }ss.

I have compared the preceding with the original law on file in this office, and do hereby certify that the same is a correct transcript therefrom, and of the whole of said original law.

Given under my hand and the seal of office of the Secretary of State, at the City of Albany, this fifth day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight.

FREDERICK COOK,
Secretary of State.

CHAP. 360.

AN ACT RELATING TO WILLS

P. 607.

PASSED APRIL 13, 1860.

SECTION 1.—No person having a husband, wife, child, or parent, shall, by his or her last will and testament, devise or bequeath to any benevolent, charitable, literary, scientific, religious, or missionary society, association, or corporation, in trust or otherwise, more than one-half part of his or her estate, after the payment of his or her debts (and such devise or bequest shall be valid to the extent of one-half and no more).

SECTION 2.—All laws and parts of laws inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

BY-LAWS OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

As Amended and Adopted in 1919

ARTICLE I

Constitution.

The several provisions and articles of the Constitution of this Society adopted in the year 1816, and as subsequently amended, are hereby adopted as By-Laws of this Society, and shall continue in force as such; and no alteration shall be made in such provisions and articles, nor any By-Law be passed by this Society, or the Board of Managers thereof, repealing, altering, or impairing the force or effect of any provision or article thereof, except by this Society at an annual meeting on the recommendation of the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE II

Officers.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, and Secretaries, who shall be elected by the Board of Managers, and hold their offices respectively during the pleasure of the Board.

There also may be Honorary Vice-Presidents elected by the Board.

ARTICLE III

Election of Officers and Managers to fill Vacancies.

All nominations of candidates to fill vacancies in any of the offices of the Society or in the Board of Managers, shall be openly made at a meeting of the Board, and be referred to the Committee of General Reference to consider and report thereon at the next or a subsequent stated meeting of the Board, when the election shall take place by ballot, and be confined to the candidates previously nominated and referred to the Committee.

When a vacancy occurs in the Board of Managers the Committee of General Reference shall report within three months all the names to fill such vacancy referred to it by the Board, with its recommendation thereon.

A Manager residing within one hundred miles of New York City who does not attend a meeting of the Board or of a Committee three times in one year shall be considered to have relinquished his membership in the Board unless he has been excused from attendance by a vote of the Board.

ARTICLE IV

Of the President.

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Board of Managers. He shall preserve order, and decide all questions of order subject to an appeal to the Society or Board, as the case may be; and generally, he shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as are usually assigned to presiding officers. He shall be *ex officio* a member of all standing committees of the Board. He shall also have authority to join in the execution and proof of instruments in writing requiring the signature of the President.

ARTICLE V

Of the Vice-Presidents.

In the absence of the President, the Vice-President first on the list then present shall preside at the meetings of the Society and of the Board of Managers, and shall exercise the powers and discharge the duties of President.

ARTICLE VI

Treasurer.

The Treasurer shall keep an account, in the name of the "American Bible Society," with such Banks or Trust Companies in the City of New York, as the Board of Managers shall designate for that purpose; and there shall be deposited in such Banks or Trust Companies, to the credit of the Society, all money paid to the Treasurer, or which may from time to time come into his hands for, or on account of, the Society. A full and accurate account shall be kept of the receipts and disbursements for the Society; and the Treasurer shall present to the Board of Managers, monthly, a full report of the same.

The Treasurer shall act under the advice and general direction of the Committees on Finance and Publication. He shall have the custody of the Deeds, Leases, Bonds, Contracts, and of all other property of the Society, except invested funds and securities. He shall have the custody of the Corporate Seal of the Society, and shall execute under seal, in the name of the Society, all Deeds, Bonds, Contracts, Releases, or Discharges authorized by the Board of Managers, or the several Committees, or officers having power for that purpose, and may prove the same according to law. He shall receive, and receipt for, all money paid or given to the Society. He shall safely keep all money not on deposit, and shall balance his cash book daily. He shall attend to all the business of the Society not specially committed to others.

The Treasurer shall, under the direction of the Committee on Finance, attend to the collection and settlement of debts and balances due to the Society, and shall conduct the correspondence respecting the same. He shall issue certificates of Life Membership and Life Directorship. He shall make out and furnish to the General Secretaries, for publication in the *Bible Society Record*, a monthly statement of all payments and donations to the Society, with the names of the societies, congregations, churches, and persons, by or through whom such payments or donations were made. He shall furnish for the Annual Report, such tabular or other statements of matters appertaining to his department as may be necessary or proper. All checks drawn by the Treasurer shall be countersigned by one of the Secretaries, after examining and comparing the check with the authority, or warrant, of the Finance Committee, upon which it is drawn. To meet payments that it may be necessary to make before the next meeting of the Finance Committee, the Treasurer shall have authority to draw checks for an amount not exceeding \$1,000 in the aggregate, presenting vouchers for the same to the Committee at its next meeting, and the Secretaries are authorized to countersign such checks without a warrant. He shall examine and recommend to the Committee on Finance for their approval all bills for salaries, materials purchased, or other amounts due by the Society.

The Treasurer shall, under the direction of the Committee on Finance, conduct all correspondence concerning legacies. He shall receive all legacies, and deliver proper receipts and discharges for the same.

The Treasurer shall, under the direction of the Committee on Publication, have full charge of the Manufacturing Department and Depository, make all purchases of paper and other materials required for the same, subject, however, to the provisions and restrictions contained in the By-Laws. He shall superintend the sale and delivery of books to Auxiliary Societies and other purchasers; and shall forward to the societies or persons for whom they are designed, all grants of books made by the Board of Managers or the Committees on Home and Foreign Agencies, including those for Life Members and Life Directors, and conduct or direct the correspondence respecting the delivery of the same. He shall every month present to the Committee on Publication full accounts and statements respecting the depository, and shall report to the Board of Managers the number and value of books issued during the preceding month. He shall, from time to time, with the advice and consent of the Committee on Publication, recommend to the Board of Managers such alterations and improvements in the machinery as may be deemed expedient.

The Treasurer shall place in the Library a copy of the first edition of every book printed and published by the Society, and a copy of every other edition in which material alterations shall have been made. He shall direct and superintend the issuing of the Annual Report and *Bible Society Record*.

He shall pay all mechanics and employees for labor actually performed in the manufacturing departments of the Society monthly, or oftener when necessary, upon pay rolls duly prepared and certified by the Superintendent of Manufacture, or, in his absence, by any member of the Committee on Publication.

The Treasurer shall have authority to issue Bills of Exchange, countersigned by one of the Secretaries, for funds appropriated by the Board for expenditure in foreign lands, upon receiving the certificate of the Secretary in charge of the foreign correspondence that the conditions of the appropriation have been fulfilled, and that the amount is due; and all such payments he shall report to the Committee on Finance at their next meeting.

The Treasurer shall have charge of the letting of premises in the Bible House, and collecting the rents thereof, under such regulations as now exist, or may from time to time be established by the Board of Managers, or the Committee on Finance.

He shall make, or cause to be made out, all statements and inventories in his department, directed by the By-Laws, or required by the Board of Managers. He shall, under the advice and direction of the Committees on Finance and Publication, employ such clerk or clerks as the business of his office may require.

During the temporary absence or inability of the Treasurer, one of the General Secretaries shall be authorized to perform any of his duties.

The Treasurer shall be an advisory member of all the Standing Committees of the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE XI

Committee on Versions.

The Committee on Versions shall have charge of all translations of the Bible, published or distributed by the Society; they shall recommend measures for securing new versions or revisions of old versions in foreign languages; shall examine new versions presented for the consideration and adoption of the Society, especially in regard to their catholicity and the fidelity of their translation; and shall recommend such as they approve for the use of the Society. They shall, subject to the express approval of the Board of Managers, prepare, or superintend the preparation of, all authorized accessories of the text in all copies of the Scriptures printed and published by the Society, and to this end they shall be charged with a supervision of the Society's Press.

The Committee shall also have charge of the Library of the Society, shall appoint one of the General Secretaries Librarian, and give him directions as to the arrangement and preservation of the books. They shall be authorized to procure, by exchange or purchase, new books when wanted, provided the outlay shall not exceed three hundred dollars per annum. At the close of each year the Committee shall report to the Board of Managers the condition of the Library.

One of the General Secretaries shall keep and record the minutes of the proceedings of this Committee.

ARTICLE XII

Committee on Publication.

The Committee on Publication shall be charged generally with the Publications made by the Society; and shall determine the numbers, quality, and kinds of the editions of books authorized to be published. They shall direct the negotiating and making of all contracts relating to the manufacture of books; and all purchases of paper, and other materials required therein, shall be made under their advice and general direction. They shall recommend to the Board of Managers the procuring or making of electrotypes and stereotype plates whenever in their judgment they are needed, and shall procure such as shall be ordered by the Board. They shall have charge of the Printing, Binding, and all other manufacturing and mechanical operations of the Society, and shall employ suitable superintendents, foremen, and mechanics in this department of the Society's business. They shall have oversight and direction of the sale of the Society's publications, and under rules approved by the Board, shall employ such methods as may be practicable for conducting vigorously and wisely this department of the Society's work. The sale of the Society's publications shall be only for cash, with such exceptions as to credit as the Board or the Committee may authorize. They shall certify, and deposit with the Treasurer, all contracts and memorandums of purchases authorized by them; and all bills, accounts, or claims against the Society rendered in pursuance thereof. Full and accurate accounts shall be

kept in the Depository and the several departments of manufacturing, and the Committee shall, from time to time, report to the Board the cost of the various publications upon the basis established by the Board, and recommend the prices at which they shall be sold.

The minutes of the proceedings of this Committee shall be kept and recorded by the Treasurer.

ARTICLE XIII

Committee on Auxiliaries and Home Agencies.

The Committee on Auxiliaries and Home Agencies shall have charge, first, of matters directly relating to Auxiliary Societies. They shall recommend for recognition such new Societies as give promise of activity and efficiency; shall examine carefully, from time to time, the roll of Auxiliaries, with the view of dropping from it such as have ceased to do legitimate work; and shall report to the Board for its approval any modifications of the system which they may deem necessary for advancing the interests of the Bible cause. Second, this Committee shall have general oversight of the work of the Home Agencies. They shall nominate to the Board suitable persons for Agency Secretaries with recommendations concerning their compensation and the incidental expenses of their work; they shall also recommend to the Board the establishment of new Agencies when such action seems desirable.

They shall have charge of grants of books and money for distribution and of consignments of books for sale in the United States, except such portions of the same as may be included in the Foreign Agencies of the Society. They shall have power to make donations not exceeding five hundred dollars to one object, and shall recommend other grants for the approval of the Board of Managers.

One of the General Secretaries shall keep and record the minutes of the proceedings of this Committee.

ARTICLE XIV

Committee on Foreign Agencies.

The Committee on Foreign Agencies shall have charge of the Foreign Agencies. They shall nominate to the Board suitable persons for Agency Secretaries, with recommendations concerning their compensation and the incidental expenses of their work; and shall have power to appoint col-porteurs and temporary agents, Agency Secretaries, or similar representatives for a period not to exceed six months, and to fix the amount of compensation to be allowed them.

They shall have charge of grants of books and money for foreign distribution and of consignments of books for sale abroad. They shall have power to make donations not exceeding five hundred dollars to one object and shall recommend other grants for the approval of the Board of Managers.

One of the General Secretaries shall keep and record the minutes of the proceedings of this Committee.

ARTICLE XV

Committee on Ways and Means.

The Committee on Ways and Means shall have charge of the raising of funds for the Society's use, by personal visitation, by correspondence, by public address, or by such other means as may appear to them advisable.

In cooperation with the Committee on Auxiliaries and Home Agencies and the Committee on Foreign Agencies, they shall prepare the Annual Budget of the Society, to be submitted to the Board of Managers, and shall also recommend such appropriations by the Board as they may deem advisable which are not by the By-Laws assigned to other committees.

One of the General Secretaries shall keep and record the minutes of the proceedings of this Committee.

ARTICLE XVI

Committee on Finance.

The Committee on Finance shall have charge of the real estate of the Society, insure the same, and fix the rents thereof. They shall order and superintend the repairs of the buildings, and authorize and direct the purchase of the necessary furniture.

They shall audit all bills, accounts, and claims for money or property, and shall draw warrants on the Treasurer for all payments to be made by the Society. They shall have charge of all debts due to the Society, and of all its claims and demands; shall take or direct the necessary and proper measures for their collection and settlement; and shall have the oversight and charge of the invested funds of the Society as provided for in Article VII. The rents derived from the real estate, after paying the expenses of administration at the Bible House, shall be applied to the general purposes of the Society. This Committee shall have authority to superintend and direct the mode and form of keeping the books and accounts of the Society.

They shall have charge of all matters concerning gifts, legacies, and devises made to the Society by will, and shall direct the necessary measures for the collection and settlement of the same, in conformity with the best interests of the Society, until such property shall be transferred or paid to the Society. They shall not compromise any legacy or bequest, involving a concession of more than \$1,000, without the previous sanction of the Board of Managers.

The minutes of the proceedings of this Committee shall be kept and recorded by the Treasurer.

ARTICLE XVII

Auditing Committee.

The Auditing Committee shall each year receive the report of the certified public accountants who have audited the Society's books for the preceding year. This report shall be carefully examined, and a report made by the Auditing Committee at the next stated meeting of the Board of Managers, after the completion of the examination.

The Committee may at any time, if it is in their judgment necessary, examine and compare the funds and securities of the Society with the inventory of the same, and also examine and audit the Cash Book of the Society, and report their condition to the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE XVIII

Committee of General Reference.

The Committee of General Reference shall consider and report to the Board upon all matters not belonging to any other Standing Committee upon which their advice may from time to time be requested, either by the Board of Managers, the General Secretaries, or the Treasurer.

At the annual election of the Standing Committees they shall recommend names for the action of the Board.

They shall also consider and report upon nominations, referred to them by the Board, of candidates to fill vacancies in any of the offices of the Society or in the Board of Managers.

One of the General Secretaries shall keep and record the minutes of the proceedings of this Committee.

ARTICLE XIX

Advisory Council.

There shall be an Advisory Council formed of representatives appointed by the evangelical Christian bodies in the United States whose general organizations endorse the work of the American Bible Society and request or require their churches to contribute to the work of the Society. This Council shall cooperate with the Board of Managers in interesting the churches which they represent, in the work of the Society, and shall advise the Board as to its purposes and plans. It shall be invited to the Annual Meeting of the Society; and shall be called together at the expense of the Society to meet with the Board and its Budget Committee at that period of the year when the budget of the Society shall be under consideration.

ARTICLE XX

Depository and Salesroom.

All the books printed and published by the Society, and completed ready for circulation, shall be placed in the Depository. Full and accurate accounts shall be kept of all books delivered into the Depository, and taken therefrom, by sale or otherwise, and of all sales made. Such accounts shall be balanced monthly, and the results reported to the Committee on Publication.

There shall be, under the general supervision and direction of the Treasurer and Committee on Publication, a room in which the publications of the Society may be sold at retail for cash only. This room and its business shall be under the immediate charge and management of a clerk, to be appointed by the Committee on Publication. He shall keep accounts of all books and property of the Society received into this room for sale, of all sales made by him, and of all money received therefor, and shall pay over such money daily to the Treasurer, and take his receipt therefor. His cash account shall be balanced weekly. All his accounts shall be balanced monthly, and a copy thereof presented to the Committee on Publication and another to the Committee on Finance.

ARTICLE XXI

Members, Life Members, Life Directors, and Memorial Members, and Their Privileges.

Members: Each subscriber of \$5.00 shall be a Member of the Society. Of this amount, \$1.00 shall be for a subscription for one year to the *Bible Society Record*, the monthly magazine of the Society. The subscriber, if he so desires, shall receive in connection with the remaining \$4.00 the other current periodicals and pamphlet publications of the Society, including the annual "Story."

Life Members: Each subscriber of \$50.00 at one time to the funds of the Society shall be a Member for life. Of this amount, \$10.00 shall be for a subscription for life to the *Bible Society Record*, the monthly magazine of the Society. The subscriber, if he so desires, shall receive in connection with the remaining \$40.00 the other current periodicals and pamphlet publications of the Society, including the annual "Story."

Life Directors: Each subscriber of \$150.00 at one time to the funds of the Society, or each subscriber who shall by one additional payment increase his original subscription to \$150.00, shall be a Director for life. Of this amount, \$10.00 shall be for a subscription for life to the *Bible Society Record*, the monthly magazine of the Society. The subscriber, if he so desires, shall receive in connection with the remaining \$140.00 the other current periodicals and pamphlet publications of the Society, including the annual "Story."

Memorial Members: Each subscriber of \$100.00 or more at one time to the funds of the Society shall be entitled to create a membership in memory of friends, to be called a Memorial Membership. The names of Memorial Members shall be preserved in a special roll of the Society, which shall be published or not as the Board of Managers may direct, but such membership shall carry with it no privileges to the donor such as are accorded to Life Members, Life Directors, etc. Certificates similar to those provided for Life Membership and Life Directorship and Honorary Life Membership shall be presented to the subscriber, bearing the name or names of those who are memorialized.

ARTICLE XXII

Accounts and Books of Accounts.

SECTION 1.—There shall be kept in double entry a full and complete set of books of accounts of all the financial transactions and dealings of this Society. There shall also be kept a Register of Life Members and Directors.

SECTION 2.—The fiscal year of this Society shall commence on the first day of January, and terminate on the last day of December. All the accounts with this Society shall be balanced on the last day of December in each year, and a balance sheet and inventory shall be made, under the joint supervision of the Committees on Finance and Publication, showing the funds, property, and effects belonging to this Society on that day, which balance sheet and inventory shall be referred to the Auditing Committee, who shall examine the same in detail, and report thereon to the Board. All such balance sheets and inventories shall be put on file for future reference.

ARTICLE XXIII

Contracts.

No contract for any purpose whatever, except for the purchase of materials, exclusive of machinery, used in the current manufacturing business of the Society, which shall involve an expenditure or outlay of money exceeding \$500, shall be made on behalf of the Society, nor shall any purchase of property to be permanently held by the Society, be made, without being first approved by the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE XXIV

Library.

All books not for sale or distribution belonging to the Society, and all manuscripts and other valuable papers, which the Society, Board of Managers, Committees, or Secretaries may deem worthy of preservation, shall be placed and preserved in the Library of the Society, or other suitable place of deposit.

ARTICLE XXV

Bible Society Record.

There shall be published a monthly paper, to be called the *Bible Society Record*, which shall contain extracts from the domestic and foreign correspondence of the Society, notices of the proceedings of the Board and of the Auxiliaries, the issues for the preceding month, and a full statement of all payments and donations to the Society. A copy of the *Record* shall be sent to such persons and societies as the officers, or members of the Board of Managers, may designate.

ARTICLE XXVI

Minutes of Proceedings.

SECTION 1.—Full and accurate minutes of the proceedings of the Society, of the Board of Managers, and of the several Standing Committees shall be kept and recorded in books provided for that purpose.

SECTION 2.—The minutes of the proceedings of the Society at its annual and other meetings shall be kept by its Recording Secretary, and these minutes, having been read for correction or approval before adjournment, shall then be recorded, and afterwards signed by the chairman of the meeting.

SECTION 3.—The minutes of the Board of Managers at its stated and other meetings shall be kept by the Recording Secretary of the Society, and after being recorded and attested by his signature, they shall be read at the next meeting of the Board, to the end that any errors therein may be corrected; and when approved they shall be signed by the presiding officer of such meeting.

SECTION 4.—The minutes of each Standing Committee shall be read and approved before adjournment, and duly recorded and attested by the officer

designated in the By-Laws, or specially appointed for that purpose, and shall be read at the next stated meeting of the Board for its action.

ARTICLE XXVII

Order of Proceedings and Business.

The order of proceedings and business at the stated meetings of the Board of Managers shall be as follows, unless otherwise specially directed by the Board:

- I. Open at 3½ o'clock, or as soon thereafter as a quorum (ten members) is present, by reading a portion of Scripture, to be selected by the presiding officer, and with prayer.
- II. Reading and approving the minutes of the Board of Managers.
- III. Reading the minutes of Standing Committees, and action thereon:
 1. Finance,
 2. Auditing,
 3. Ways and Means,
 4. Versions,
 5. Publication,
 6. Auxiliaries and Home Agencies,
 7. Foreign Agencies,
 8. General Reference.
- IV. Reports and communications from officers of the Society and the Board:
 1. Secretaries,
 2. Treasurer.
- V. Reports from Special Committees.
- VI. Special orders.
- VII. Unfinished business.
- VIII. Miscellaneous business.

ARTICLE XXVIII

Rules for the Transaction of Business at Meetings of the Board.

1. The presiding officer shall preserve order, keep the speaker to the point under consideration, and appoint Committees not otherwise provided for. He shall not take part in debate, nor propose any new measure, unless he first leave the chair; but he may vote as any other member.

2. A motion having been made, seconded, and stated from the chair, shall be considered in possession of the Board, but may be withdrawn by the mover before any order is taken on it. Every motion shall be reduced to writing, if the presiding officer or any other member require it; and when the question contains several distinct propositions, any member may have the same divided.

3. A motion to amend shall be considered first in order, and shall be decided before the original motion. A substitute for any pending motion or

amendment may be offered, and shall, if it prevail, supersede the original motion or proposed amendment, and may itself be amended.

4. Every member wishing to speak shall rise and address the chair. No one shall speak more than once on a question until every member evincing a desire to speak shall have had opportunity to do so; and no member shall speak over ten minutes without the permission of the Board.

5. Motions to lay on the table shall be taken without debate, and a motion to adjourn shall be considered always in order, and be taken without debate.

6. When a report is presented by a Committee, it shall be considered in possession of the Board, and may be adopted, amended, recommitted, laid on the table, or otherwise disposed of, as the Board may judge proper.

7. It is the duty of the chair, and the privilege of any member to call a speaker to order when his remarks are irrelevant to the question, or discourteous; and if it be decided that the speaker is out of order, he shall not proceed without the consent of the Board.

8. When a member rises to a point of order, he shall state the same, and in writing if required, and the chair shall rule thereon, without debate.

9. A call of the ayes and noes shall be ordered on the demand of any five members present.

10. Any decision of the presiding officer shall be subject to an appeal to the Board, and such appeal shall be decided without debate; but the presiding officer may assign his reasons for his decision before the vote on the appeal.

11. When a question has been once put and decided, it shall be in order for any member who voted in the majority to move for the reconsideration thereof; but no motion for reconsideration shall be taken more than once at the same meeting.

12. Every member of the Board may have his vote recorded on any question.

ARTICLE XXIX

Amendment of the By-Laws.

The first Article of the present By-Laws shall not be repealed, altered, or amended, except in the mode prescribed in and by the Article itself; nor shall the Board of Managers make, alter, or amend any other By-Law, except at a stated monthly meeting thereof, nor at the same meeting at which such By-Law, alteration, or amendment is proposed.

ARTICLE XXX

Declaratory and Repealing Act

The foregoing are declared to be the By-Laws of the Board of Managers; and all By-Laws and Regulations heretofore passed or adopted by the Board and inconsistent with the preceding By-Laws are hereby repealed.

NOTICE TO AUXILIARIES

The officers of Auxiliary Societies are requested to forward their annual reports to the Parent Society promptly. Blank forms will be furnished for this purpose on application.

Whenever a new Society is organized, notice of the event should be given *immediately* to the Parent Society, so that it may be recognized. The names of its officers and their post-office addresses should also be given.

No Society can be considered as having become auxiliary until it shall have officially communicated to the Parent Society *that its sole object is to promote the circulation of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment; and that it will place its surplus revenue, after supplying its own district with the Scriptures, at the disposal of the American Bible Society, as long as it shall remain thus connected with it.*

CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

Letters relating to the general work of the Society in the United States or foreign lands, and requests for grants of books and communications for the *Bible Society Record*, should be addressed to "The Secretaries of the American Bible Society, Bible House, Astor Place, New York."

Letters transmitting funds, and those relating to accounts, fiscal reports, Life Memberships, and Legacies, also orders for Bibles and Testaments, the *Bible Society Record*, etc., and letters in reference to the transmission of the same, should be addressed to "The Treasurer of the American Bible Society, Bible House, Astor Place, New York."

The Board of Managers beg leave to state that it is necessary that orders for books should be accompanied WITH PAYMENT, it being understood that the moneys are usually collected by societies previous to their purchasing books.

FORM OF A BEQUEST TO THE SOCIETY

I GIVE and bequeath to the American Bible Society, formed in New York in the year eighteen hundred and sixteen, and incorporated in the year eighteen hundred and forty-one, the sum of _____, to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of said Society.

In case it is desired to give real estate, the above form can be made to read:

I direct my executors to sell [here describe the land], and I give and bequeath to the American Bible Society, formed in New York in the year eighteen hundred and sixteen, and incorporated in the year eighteen hundred and forty-one, out of the proceeds thereof, the sum of _____, to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of said Society.

MEETINGS OF THE BOARD AND OF THE SOCIETY

The BOARD OF MANAGERS meet *regularly* at the Bible Society's House, Astor Place, in the city of New York, on the first Thursday of every month, and *oftener*, as business may require, on adjournment, or in special meeting.

The Annual Meeting of the Society is held on the second Thursday in May, at the Society's House, in New York.

CONSTITUTION OF AN AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY

ARTICLE 1. This Society shall be called the Bible Society of _____ Auxiliary to the American Bible Society.

ART. 2. The object of the Society shall be to promote the circulation of the Holy Scriptures "without note or comment," and in English, those of the version set forth in 1611 and commonly known as the King James Version, whether in its original form as published in the aforesaid year or as revised, the New Testament in 1881 and the Old Testament in 1885, and published in these years under the supervision of the Committee of Revision, or as further revised and edited by the American Committee of Revision and printed under its supervision in 1901.

ART. 3. All persons contributing any sum to its funds shall be members for one year,

those contributing one dollar or more shall receive (if called for within twelve months) a common Bible in return; those contributing *fifteen* dollars at *one* time, or *twenty* dollars at two payments, shall be members for life.

ART. 4. All funds, not wanted for circulating the Scriptures within the Society's own limits, shall be paid over annually to the Parent Society, to aid distributions among the destitute in other parts of the country and in foreign lands.

ART. 5. The officers of the Society shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, whose duties shall be such as their respective titles import.

ART. 6. The management of the Society shall be intrusted to an Executive Committee of five (or seven, including the Secretary and Treasurer), which shall appoint its own Chairman, and make its own By-Laws.

ART. 7. It shall be the duty of this Committee to meet frequently on adjournment, or on call of the Chairman; to keep a good supply of books on hand; to appoint local distributors; to see that collections, in some way, are made annually in every congregation; and that all funds are forwarded early to the Parent Society, with a statement as to the portion designed for the payment of books, and that as a free donation.

ART. 8. There shall be a general meeting of the Society on ——— of each year, when a full report of their doings shall be presented by the Committee (a copy of which shall be furnished to the Parent Society), and when a new election of Officers and Committee shall take place. Should the Society fail of an annual meeting, the same Officers and Committee shall be continued until an election does occur.

ART. 9. Any Branch Society, or Bible Committee, formed within the bounds of this Auxiliary, by paying over its funds annually, shall receive Bibles and Testaments at cost prices.

ART. 10. No alteration shall be made in this Constitution, except at an annual meeting, and by consent of two-thirds of the members present.

BRANCH SOCIETY

In many parts of the country, counties are divided into separate townships, each of which should it be deemed advisable, can form a small Branch Bible Society, in connection with the County Auxiliary. It can adopt a Constitution like the one above, with such alterations as the difference of circumstances will suggest. The Branch should collect its moneys annually, and pay them over to the County Auxiliary some weeks previous to its anniversary. All needed books can be procured through the Auxiliary, and kept in a convenient depository. Sometimes a single congregation can resolve itself into a Branch Bible Society, or appoint a Bible Committee of *three*, who shall collect and forward money, and receive books through the County Society.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY FROM ITS ORGANIZATION

The Society, since its organization, has had sixteen *Presidents*, as follows:

Hon. Elias Boudinot, LL.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	from 1816 to 1821
Hon. John Jay, LL.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1821 " 1827
Hon. Richard Varick,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1828 " 1831
Hon. John Cotton Smith, LL.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1831 " 1845
Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen, LL.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1846 " 1862
Hon. Luther Bradish, LL.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1862 " 1863
James Lenox, Esq.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1864 " 1871
William H. Allen, LL.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1872 " 1880
S. Wells Williams, LL.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1881 " 1884
Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1884 " 1885
Hon. Enoch L. Fancher, LL.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1885 " 1900
Daniel Coit Gilman, LL.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1903 " 1908
Theophilus A. Brouwer, Esq.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1909 " 1911
James Wood, Esq.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1911 " 1919
Churchill H. Cutting, Esq.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1919 " 1924
E. Francis Hyde	.	.	.	.	.	" 1924 " —

The following have been, at different periods, the *Corresponding Secretaries* of the Society. In 1919 the name was changed to *General Secretaries*:

Rev. John M. Mason, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	from 1816 to 1820
Rev. John B. Romeyn, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1816 " 1819
Rev. James Milnor, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1819 " 1840
Rev. Selah S. Woodhull, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1820 " 1825
Rev. Thos. McAuley, D.D., LL.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1825 " 1839
Rev. Charles G. Sommers, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1825 " 1833
Rev. Nathan Bangs, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1827 " 1829
Rev. John C. Brigham, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1828 " 1862
Rev. Spencer H. Cone, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1833 " 1836
Rev. Edmund S. Janes, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1840 " 1844
Rev. Noah Levings, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1844 " 1849
Rev. S. Irenæus Prime, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1849 " 1850
Rev. Joseph Holdich, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1849 " 1878
Rev. Joseph C. Stiles, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1850 " 1852
Rev. James H. McNeill,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1853 " 1861
Rev. William J. R. Taylor, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1862 " 1870
Rev. T. Ralston Smith, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1866 " 1871
Rev. Edward W. Gilman, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1871 " 1900
Rev. Alexander M'Lean, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1874 " 1898
Rev. Albert S. Hunt, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1878 " 1898
Rev. John Fox, D.D., LL.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1898 " 1918
Rev. William I. Haven, D.D., LL.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1898 " 1928
Rev. Edward P. Ingersoll, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1901 " 1906
Frank H. Mann,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1919 " 1924
Rev. Arthur C. Ryan, D.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1925 " 1927
Rev. Eric M. North, Ph.D.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1928 " —
Rev. George William Brown, M.A.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1928 " —

The *Treasurers* of the Society, in their order, have been as follows:

Hon. Richard Varick,	.	.	.	.	.	from 1816 to 1820
William W. Woolsey, Esq.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1820 " 1827
John Adams, Esq.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1828 " 1832
Garrett N. Bleecker, Esq.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1832 " 1832
Hubert Van Wagenen, Esq.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1832 " 1836
John Nitchie, Esq.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1836 " 1838
Abraham Keyser, Esq.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1838 " 1840
William Whitlock, Jr., Esq.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1840 " 1875
William Foulke, Esq.,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1886 " 1920
Rev. Gilbert Darlington,	.	.	.	.	.	" 1920 " —

In the earlier history of the Society the office of *Recording Secretary and Accountant* was held by

John Pintard, LL.D.,	from 1816 to 1832
Robert F. Winslow, Esq.,	" 1832 " 1836

In 1907 the office of Recording Secretary was restored. *The Recording Secretaries* of the Society have been as follows:

Rev. Henry Otis Dwight, LL.D.,	from 1907 to 1917
Rev. Lewis Birge Chamberlain, D.D.,	" 1918 to —

From May, 1914, to April, 1916, the Rev. Henry J. Scudder, B.D., was *Acting Recording Secretary*, while Dr. Dwight was engaged in writing the history of the Society.

In April, 1915, the Rev. Lewis Birge Chamberlain, D.D., was elected *Assistant Corresponding Secretary* to aid in the Centennial Celebration, and was continued in the follow-up campaign until December 31, 1917.

From February, 1921, to September, 1925, the Rev. J. L. McLaughlin, D.D., was *Assistant Secretary*, to aid especially in the correspondence with home and foreign fields.

In March, 1927, the position of Associate Secretary was created by the Board, and the Rev. Eric M. North, Ph.D., elected to the office. On May 1st, he entered on the duties, particularly, the supervision of the work of Home Distribution. On May 1, 1928, he became a General Secretary.

In 1818 Mr. Caldwell was appointed the Society's *Agent*.

In 1819 John Nitchie, Esq., was appointed *Agent and Accountant*.

The office of *General Agent and Assistant Treasurer* has been held by

John Nitchie, Esq.,	from 1832 to 1836
Joseph Hyde, Esq.,	" 1836 " 1854

In 1853 the office of General Agent and Assistant Treasurer was divided, and the following gentlemen have since acted as *Assistant Treasurer*:

Henry Fisher, Esq.,	from 1853 to 1869
Andrew L. Taylor, Esq.,	" 1869 " 1886
Rev. Gilbert Darlington,	" 1920 " 1920

In 1854 Caleb T. Rowe, Esq., was elected *General Agent*, and continued in that office until his decease in the year 1898. Since that time the office of General Agent has been discontinued by a change in the By-Laws, and its duties now devolve mainly upon the Treasurer. Those not assigned to the Treasurer come under the supervision of the Secretaries.

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LEGACIES

The following suggestions in regard to the drafting of Wills are made for the information of those who desire to leave bequests to the Society, and thus to perpetuate the work when their own personal efforts are ended:

FORM OF A BEQUEST

I give and bequeath to the American Bible Society, formed in New York in the year eighteen hundred and sixteen, and incorporated in the year eighteen hundred and forty-one, the sum of

Legacies may also be left to the Society in trust, the income only to be used.

In case it is desired to give real estate, the above form can be made to read:

I give and devise to the American Bible Society, formed in New York in the year eighteen hundred and sixteen, and incorporated in the year eighteen hundred and forty-one, the following property, to wit:

The Society is incorporated by a special act of the Legislature of New York, passed March 25, 1841, and has by subsequent legislation received further powers. In 1888 it was authorized to take, receive, and hold any personal or real property by gift or grant, bequest or devise; and gifts and grants, bequests and devises, of personal or real property may be made directly to the Society, or to it in trust for any of the purposes comprehended in the general objects of the Society, and such trusts may continue for such time as may be necessary to accomplish the purpose for which they may be created. It is, however, provided that every such bequest or devise by residents of the State of New York shall be subject to the provisions of the Act of April 13, 1860, whereby it is enacted that

“No person having a husband, wife, child, or parent, shall, by his or her last will and testament, devise or bequeath to any benevolent, charitable, literary, scientific, religious, or missionary society, association, or corporation, in trust or otherwise, more than one half part of his or her estate, after the payment of his or her debts (and such devise or bequest shall be valid to the extent of one half, and no more).”

The Society, by the general and special powers given to it by the Legislature of New York, can, in the absence of local statutory restrictions, take and hold real estate in other States by gift or devise.

